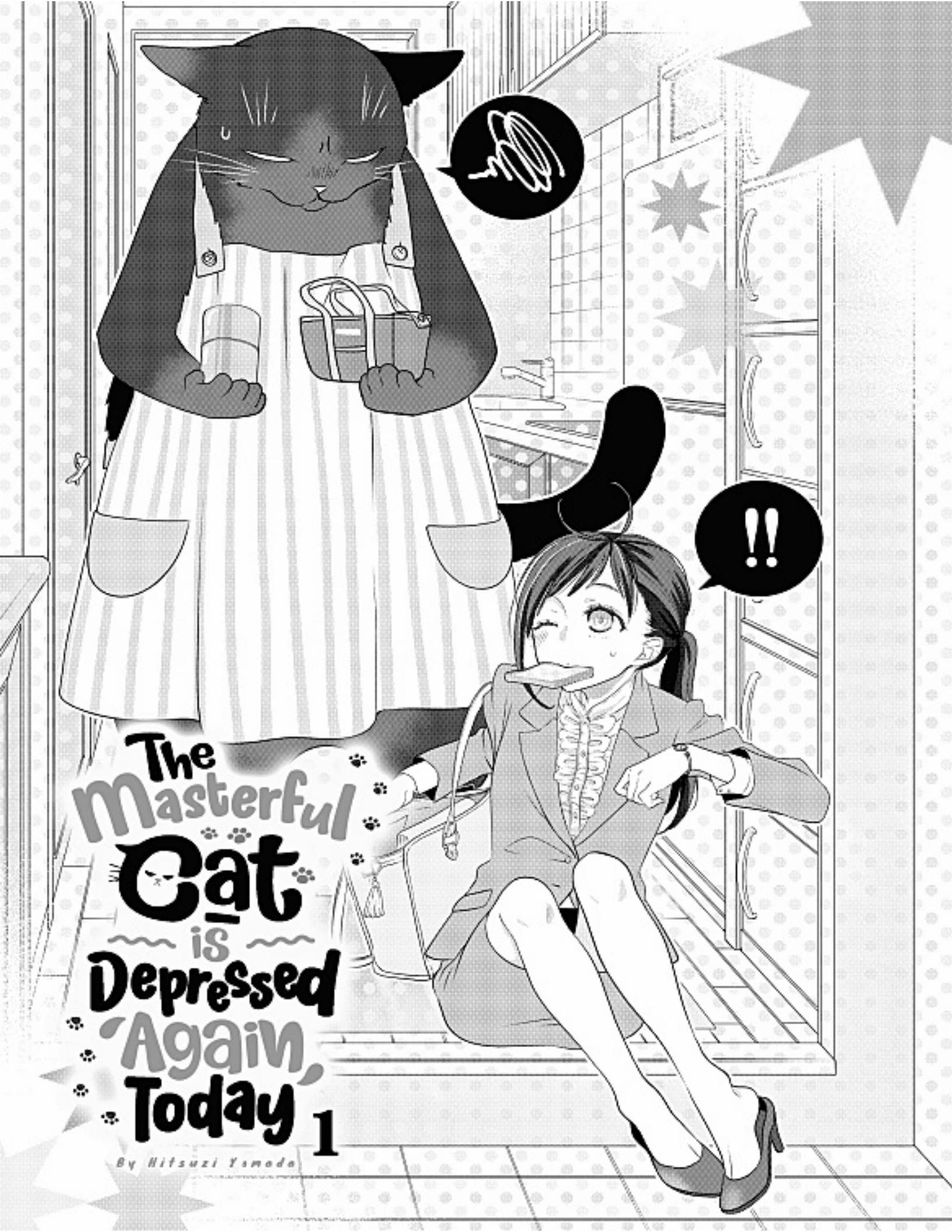
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

1

Story and Art by
Hitsuzi Yamada



The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

1

By Hitsuzi Yamada

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

CONTENTS

1 CAN 1 003

2 CAN 2 015

3 CAN 3 025

4 CAN 4 035

5 CAN 5 043

6 CAN 6 053

7 CAN 7 059

8 CAN 8 071

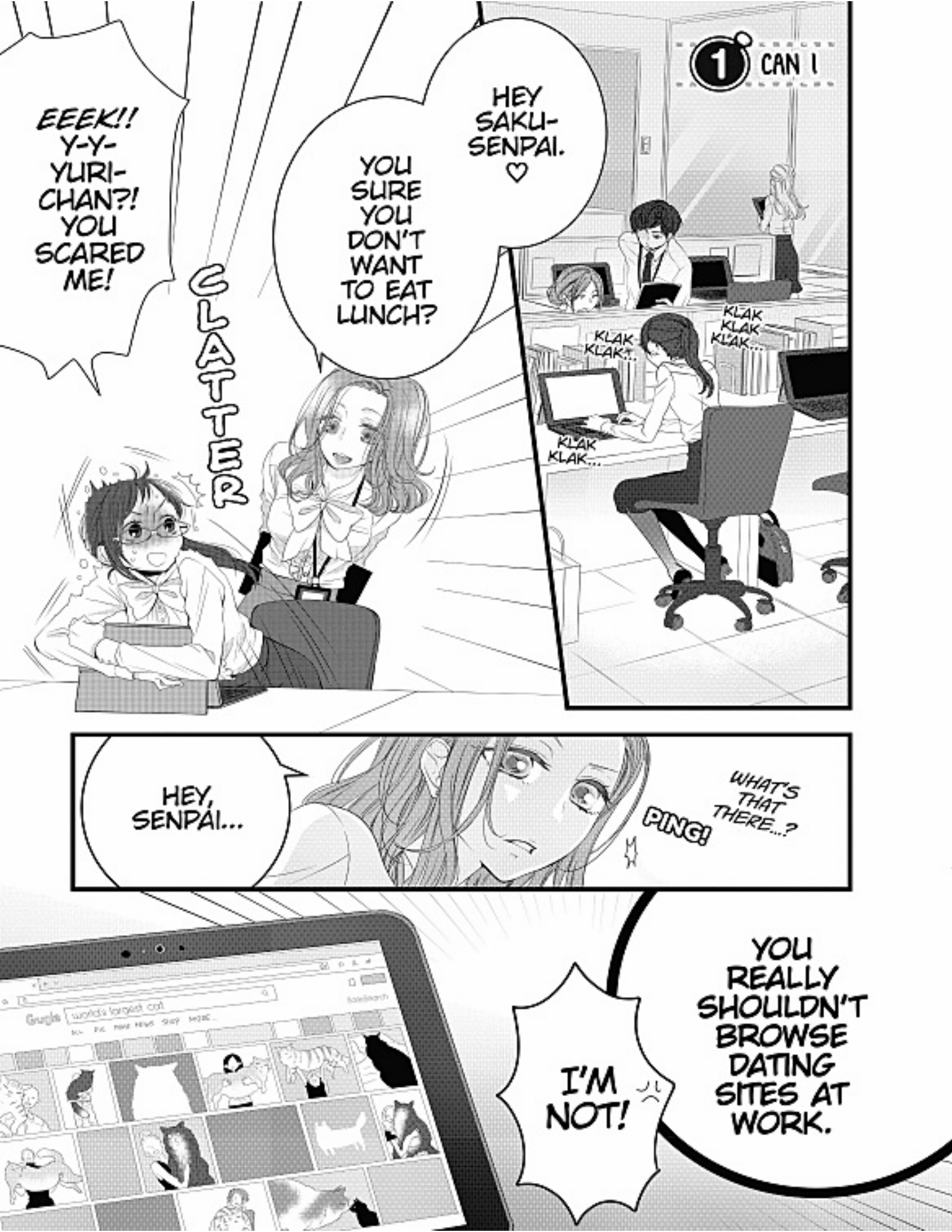
9 CAN 9 079

10 CAN 10 099

11 CAN 11 107

12 CAN 12 115

0 CAN 0 123


1 CAN I
HEY SAKU-SENPAI. ♡
YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT LUNCH?
EEEK!! Y-Y-YURI-CHAN?! YOU SCARED ME!
CLATTER
KLAK KLAK KLAK...
KLAK KLAK...
KLAK KLAK...
HEY, SENPAI...
WHAT'S THAT THERE...?
PING!
YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BROWSE DATING SITES AT WORK.
I'M NOT!

AND I WAS WONDERING HOW BIG THEY CAN GET.

I THINK THIS ONE'S CALLED A MAINE COON.

WHOA, THAT'S HUGE.

"WORLD'S LARGEST CAT"? WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING *THAT* UP FOR?

UMM...

I'VE ACTUALLY GOT A CAT AT HOME...

UH-HUH.

LIVING ALONE WITH A CAT? YOU'RE BASICALLY BROADCASTING THAT YOU'VE GIVEN UP ON MARRIAGE!

OH GOD!!

LET'S LEAVE MY RELATIONSHIP STATUS OUT OF THIS, ALL RIGHT?!

SIGH...

ARE YOU *TRYING* TO BE A STEREO-TYPE, SAKU-SENPAI?

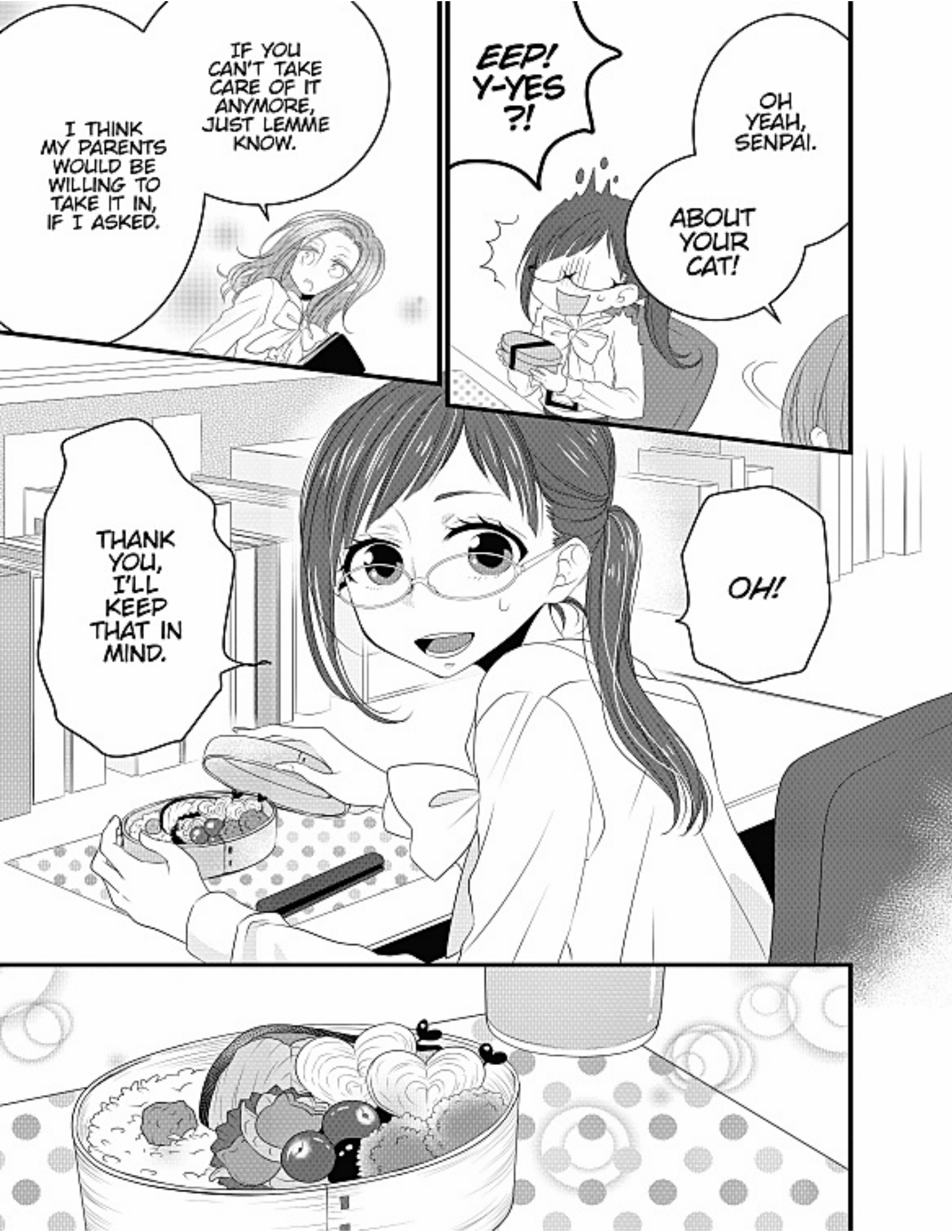
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

TIME TO EAT...

WHAAAT?!

SORRY!

SHIBASAKI-SAN, THE MEETING AFTER LUNCH HAS BEEN MOVED UP HALF AN HOUR.


I THINK MY PARENTS WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE IT IN, IF I ASKED.
IF YOU CAN'T TAKE CARE OF IT ANYMORE, JUST LEMME KNOW.
EEP! Y-YES ?!
OH YEAH, SENPAI.
ABOUT YOUR CAT!
THANK YOU, I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND.
OH!

SHE MIGHT HAVE A POINT THERE.
KA-CHAK
"IF YOU CAN'T TAKE CARE OF IT ANYMORE..."
TWITCH
I'M HOME!
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
HEY, YUKICHI!
WELL...
flick

IF HE WERE A NORMAL CAT, THAT IS.
CLEANING IN THE DARK AGAIN? HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO TURN THE LIGHTS ON!

HMPH!
WAIT, ARE YOU MAD AT ME?
IS IT BECAUSE I CAME HOME LATE?
BUT I ALWAYS COME HOME AT THIS TIME.
I WISH. NO PLACE ACTUALLY DOES THAT, YUKICHI.
Half-Day Friday
WHAP WHAP
"HALF-DAY FRIDAY"?
DINNER. ICE COLD.
OH...
ANYWAY, WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANY--
shake
shake
shake
I'LL EAT IT RIGHT AWAY!
BEEN WAITING ALL EVENING.
WAAH!
I'M SO SORRY, YUKICHIIIII!!

MM, FEELIN' KINDA... SL...
SLEE... PY...
HAAAH...
FWUMP
AHH, NOTHING BEATS A HOMECOOKED MEAL AFTER WORK!
THAT WAS DELICIOUS!

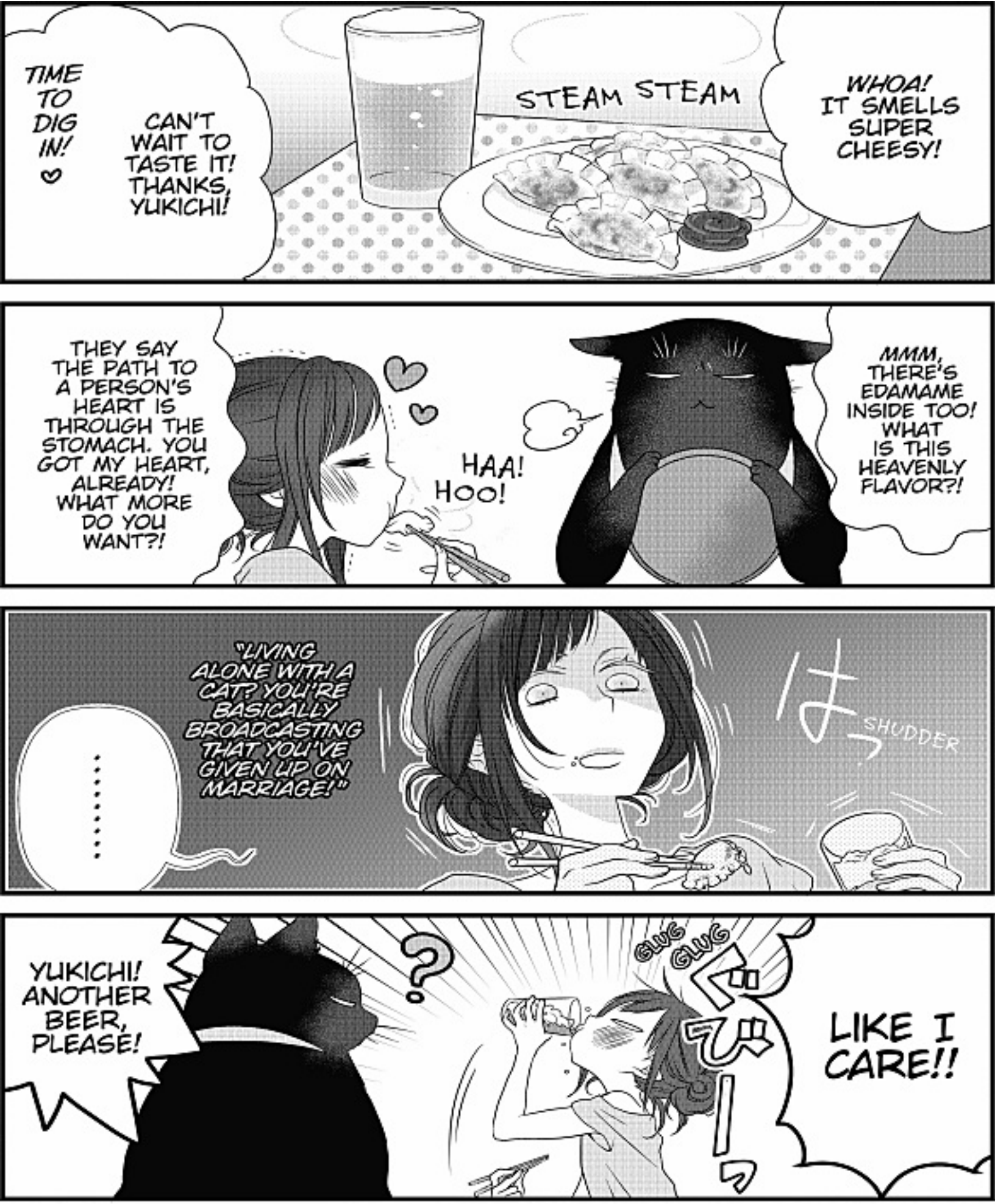
ZZZ...

DRAGAGAG

PSSSSHHH
YOU MONSTER!
HOT! THAT'S HOT!!
OWW!!

SHUFFLE
RUSTLE
SPLISH
SPLASH
PSSSHAA
POP
EMPTY
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH!
SMIRK
FWSH
SNAP
THANKS FOR LUNCH EVERY DAY!
OH YEAH, THE LUNCH YOU MADE TODAY WAS REALLY GOOD, YUKICHI.
AHH! SQUEAKY CLEAN AND TOTALLY REFRESHED!
KA-CHAK

OH! ARE THESE CHICKEN TENDERS STUFFED WITH CHEESE?!
KA-CHAK
PREMIUM BEER
PREMIUM BEER
GOTTA HAVE A BEER AFTER A GOOD BATH, RIGHT?
YOU'RE SAVING IT FOR TOMOR-ROW'S LUNCH, HUH?
AWW...
I CAN'T?
HEY YUKICHI, CAN I EAT THESE?
WHINE
IT LOOKED SO GOOD, TOO.
GUESS I JUST HAVE TO WAIT TILL TOMORROW.
WHINE
WHINE
GRR...
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
DARN.
THAT'S TOO BAD.
YOU'RE MAKING ME SOMETHING ELSE?!
LEMME GO BLOW DRY MY HAIR REAL QUICK!!
TSK!
Ushuuu


TIME TO DIG IN! ♡
CAN'T WAIT TO TASTE IT! THANKS, YUKICHI!
STEAM STEAM
WHOA! IT SMELLS SUPER CHEESY!
THEY SAY THE PATH TO A PERSON'S HEART IS THROUGH THE STOMACH. YOU GOT MY HEART, ALREADY! WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?!
HAA! HOO!
MMM, THERE'S EDAMAME INSIDE TOO! WHAT IS THIS HEAVENLY FLAVOR?!
"LIVING ALONE WITH A CAT? YOU'RE BASICALLY BROADCASTING THAT YOU'VE GIVEN UP ON MARRIAGE!"
……
はっ SHUDDER
YUKICHI! ANOTHER BEER, PLEASE!
?
GLUG GLUG
LIKE I CARE!!

CAN 1 END

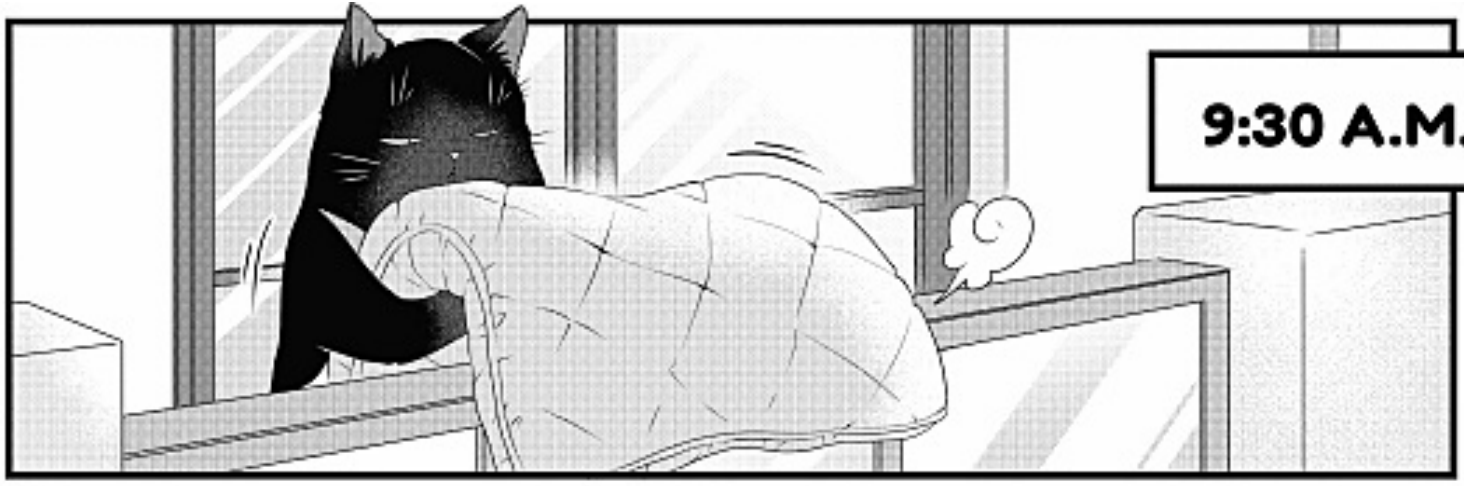
I CAN STILL DRINK!

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

6:45 A.M.
STREEETCH
CHIRP
CHIRP
FWEE
FSSS
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
PERFECT.
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH!
SMIRK

7:55 A.M.
TIME FOR OUR MORNING SONG! ♪
IT'S 7:55!
ZZZ... SNORE...
PAT PAT PAT
SHAKE
SHAKE
AAH...
SMELLS LIKE FRIED CHICKEN...
FLUFF
LOOM
SQUISH
NNNGHH! I CAN'T BREATHE ...!
COUGH!

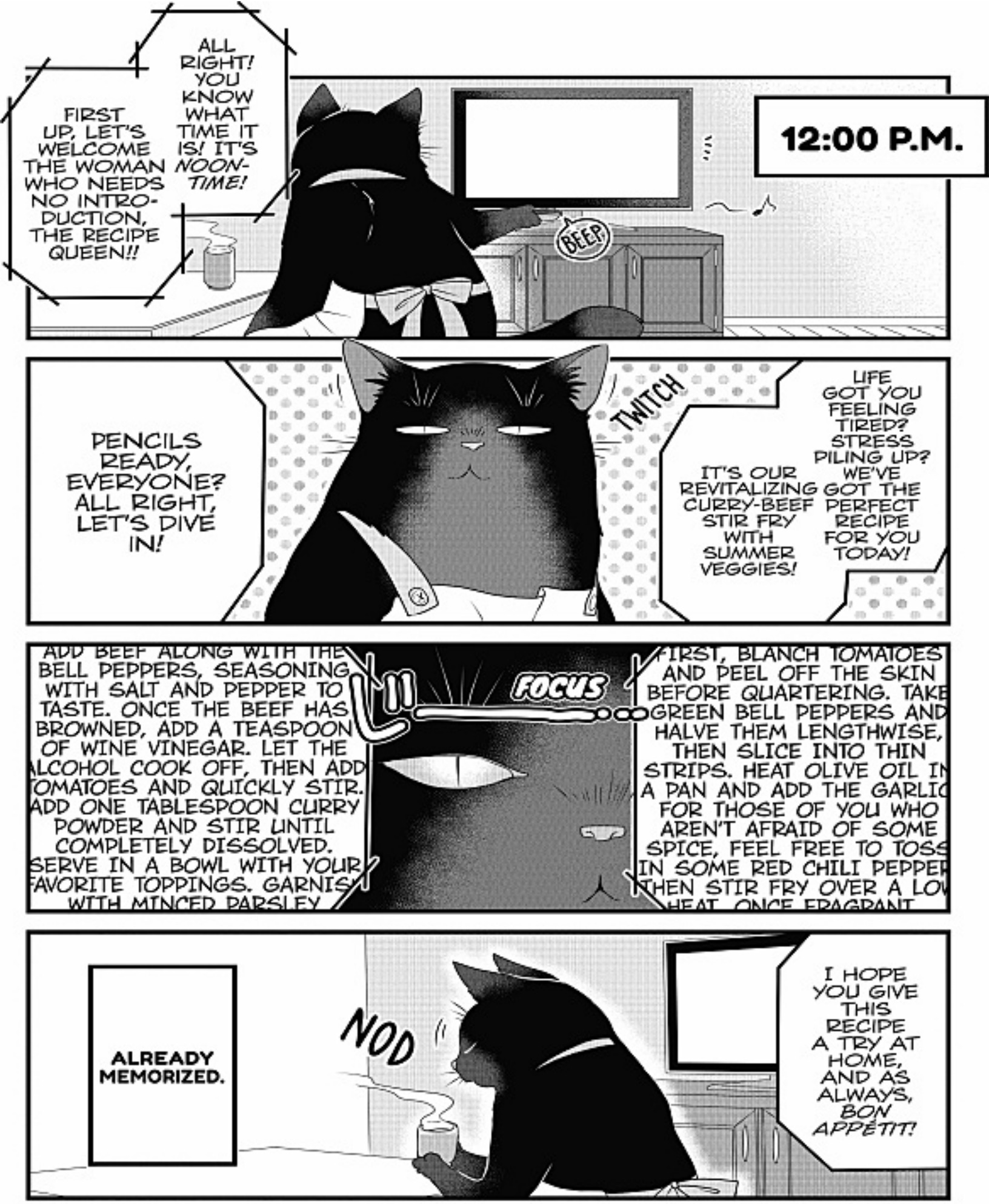
8:50 A.M.
うわああああ
WAAAAAH!
うわあああん
WAAAAAH!
NOOO! I DON'T WANNA!
I DON'T WANNA GO TO WORK!
I have a meeting first thing in the
rning with the general
manager, but I still haven't finishe
ing the documents
yet! And why do I have
do
stuff every day,
anyways?! I bet they're go
a
vertime again
today. Why can't we
pr
s over email?!
I can't believe we h
e! Aaaaahh, I
don't wanna ride t
wded! Ouch!
And there's always
a
gu
sick of this!
WIPE
WIPE
YUKICHI!!!!! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GOOD TO ME!
BWAAAAH!
PAT
PAT
NOD
NOD
すすす
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
LOCKED TIGHT.
バターン
SLAM!
ガチャン!!
KA-CLUNK!


9:30 A.M.

SHWOO...

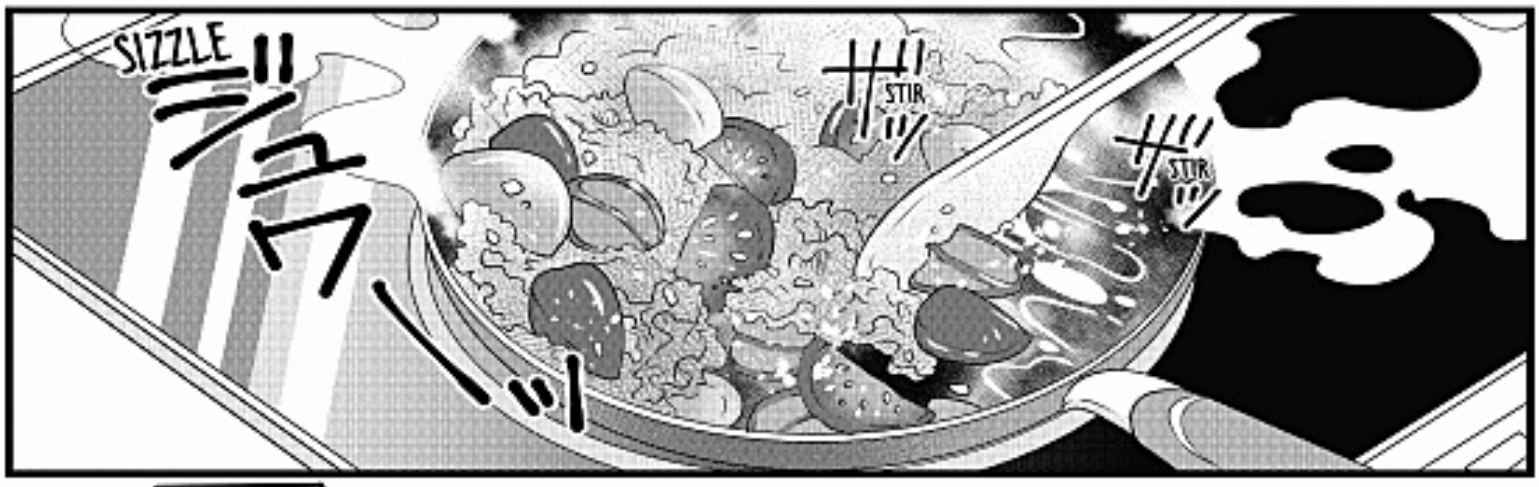
HMM?
MOMMY, LOOK!

SNOOZE
IS THAT A BEAR RUG? THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE EVERY DAY.
HELLO, BEAR-SAN!

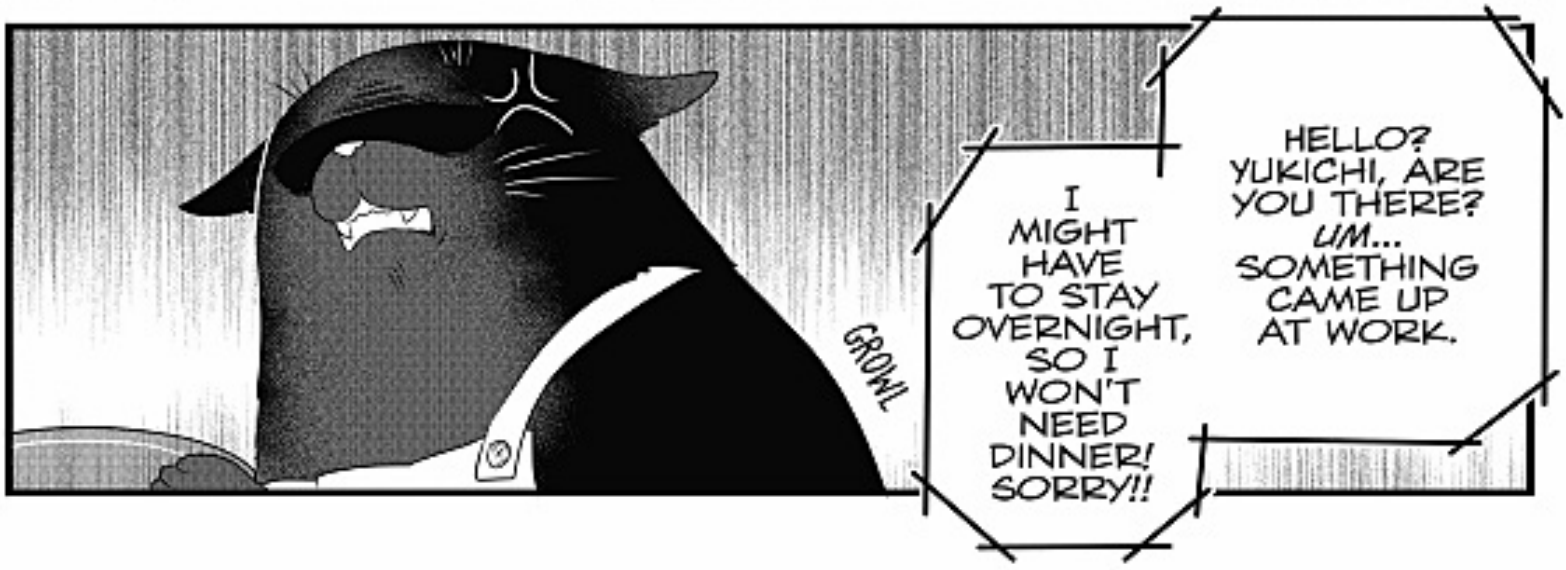

FIRST UP, LET'S WELCOME THE WOMAN WHO NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION, THE RECIPE QUEEN!!
ALL RIGHT! YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS! IT'S NOON-TIME!
12:00 P.M.
BEEP
PENCILS READY, EVERYONE? ALL RIGHT, LET'S DIVE IN!
TWITCH
IT'S OUR REVITALIZING CURRY-BEEF STIR FRY WITH SUMMER VEGGIES!
LIFE GOT YOU FEELING TIRED? STRESS PILING UP? WE'VE GOT THE PERFECT RECIPE FOR YOU TODAY!
ADD BEEF ALONG WITH THE BELL PEPPERS, SEASONING WITH SALT AND PEPPER TO TASTE. ONCE THE BEEF HAS BROWNED, ADD A TEASPOON OF WINE VINEGAR. LET THE ALCOHOL COOK OFF, THEN ADD TOMATOES AND QUICKLY STIR. ADD ONE TABLESPOON CURRY POWDER AND STIR UNTIL COMPLETELY DISSOLVED. SERVE IN A BOWL WITH YOUR FAVORITE TOPPINGS. GARNISH WITH MINCED PARSLEY
FOCUS
FIRST, BLANCH TOMATOES AND PEEL OFF THE SKIN BEFORE QUARTERING. TAKE GREEN BELL PEPPERS AND HALVE THEM LENGTHWISE, THEN SLICE INTO THIN STRIPS. HEAT OLIVE OIL IN A PAN AND ADD THE GARLIC FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO AREN'T AFRAID OF SOME SPICE, FEEL FREE TO TOSS IN SOME RED CHILI PEPPER THEN STIR FRY OVER A LOW HEAT. ONCE FRAGRANT
ALREADY MEMORIZED.
NOD
I HOPE YOU GIVE THIS RECIPE A TRY AT HOME, AND AS ALWAYS, BON APPÉTIT!

FLIP...
4:30 P.M.
SCRUB
SCRUB
SCRUB
SWISH
SWISH
PSSHAA...
TUUURN...
PSSSHHH...
HATES WATER.
JOLT
PSHAAA!

5:30 P.M.
PSHHH
KCHA
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE


SIZZLE
STIR
STIR

HELLO! I'M NOT HOME RIGHT NOW.
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.
BRRRING...
HEH HEH HEH!
PERFECT (AGAIN).


HELLO? YUKICHI, ARE YOU THERE? UM... SOMETHING CAME UP AT WORK.
I MIGHT HAVE TO STAY OVERNIGHT, SO I WON'T NEED DINNER! SORRY!!
GROWL

GAAAAAAAHHH!

うおおおおおおお

YOU CAN FINISH THIS BY TOMORROW MORNING, RIGHT?! *RIGHT?!*

ACK! PRINTER'S OUT OF PAPER! WHERE DO WE KEEP THE REST OF IT?!

BRRRNG

BRRRNG

BRRRNG

I'M COMPILING THE DATA AND SENDING IT TO THE BOSS!

AAHH! SOMEBODY, PLEASE GO TO THE ARCHIVE AND DIG UP THE CLIENT'S PAST DOCUMENTS!

Meanwhile...

WAIT, YUKICHI IS CALLING ME BACK?!

HUH? A PHONE CALL... FROM *HOME?!*

VRZZ VRZZ

VRZZ VRZZ VRZZ...

EEEEEEK!

WHATEVER, JUST DO SOMETHING! ANYTHING!

HE CLICKED HIS TONGUE AT ME!

BEEEP! BEEEEP!

GRUNT,

TSK!

H-HELLO ...?

SHE MANAGED TO CATCH THE LAST TRAIN HOME.

KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK

AAAAAH!

CHATTER

SHE'S KICKED INTO OVER-DRIVE!!

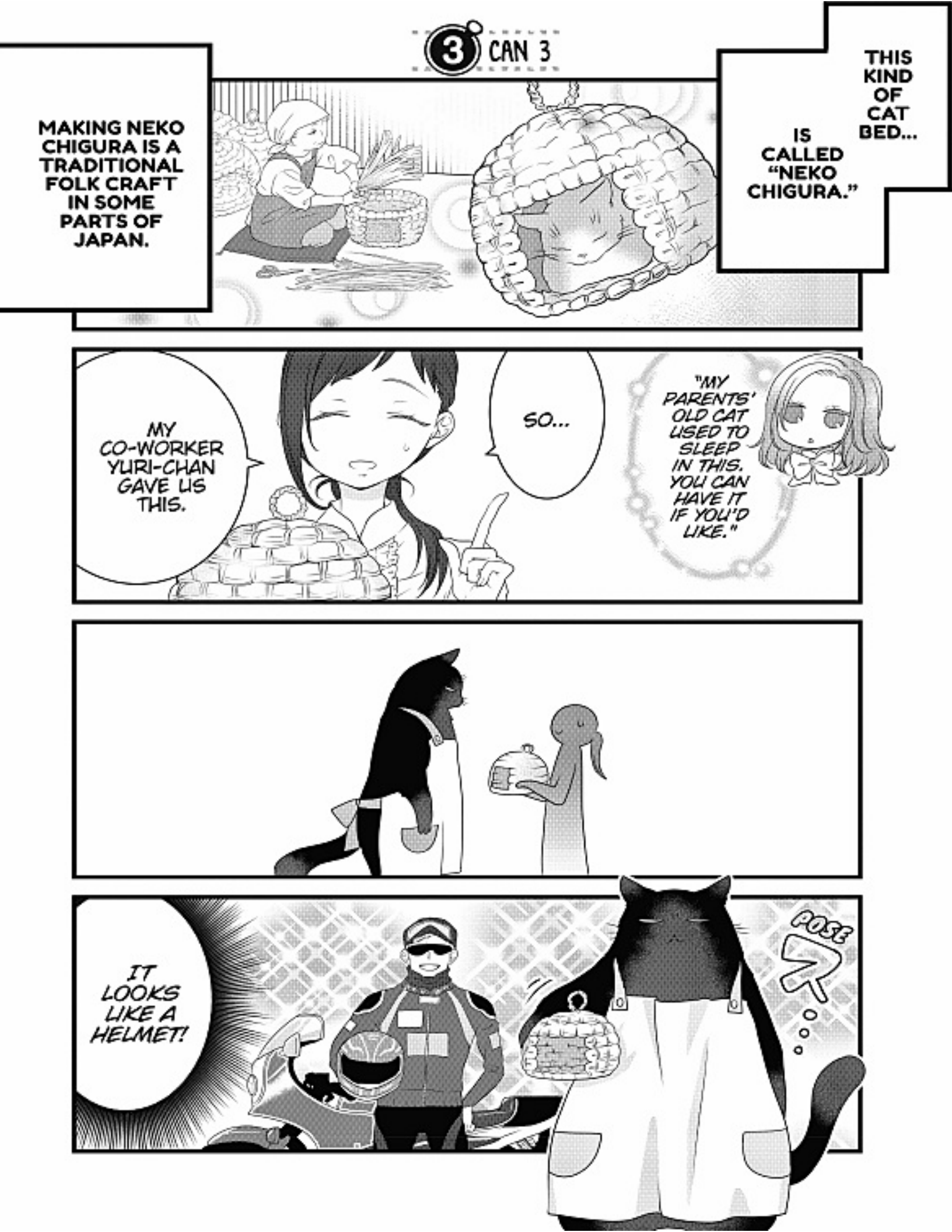
WHOA, CHECK OUT FUKUZAWA! SHE'S MOVING SO FAST, HER HANDS ARE A BLUR!!

CAN 2 END

YOU SMELL LIKE SUNLIGHT.

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

3 CAN 3


MAKING NEKO CHIGURA IS A TRADITIONAL FOLK CRAFT IN SOME PARTS OF JAPAN.
THIS KIND OF CAT BED... IS CALLED "NEKO CHIGURA."
MY CO-WORKER YURI-CHAN GAVE US THIS.
SO...
"MY PARENTS' OLD CAT USED TO SLEEP IN THIS. YOU CAN HAVE IT IF YOU'D LIKE."
IT LOOKS LIKE A HELMET!
POSE

STARE じっ
UM, YUKICHI?
SHE'S NEVER MET YOU BEFORE, AFTER ALL!
WELL, THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD HAVE KNOWN!
SQUISH
SQUEEZE ぎゅぅ...
YOU SURE LIKE THAT THING, HUH?
PURRRRRRRRRR
.....

THE NEXT DAY.
WHAT'S IN THE PAPER BAG?
THANKS!
HM?
WOW, YOU MADE LUNCH TODAY TOO!
YOU MADE A THANK-YOU GIFT FOR YURI-CHAN?!
WOW, MADELEINES!!
OH!
TAP TAP
THEY SMELL SO GOOD! I BET THEY TASTE REALLY GOOD, TOO!!
YUKICHI, YOU'RE SUCH A THOUGHT-FUL AND GENEROUS CAT!
MEAN-IE!!
TSK!
SLAP!!
べったん!!
B-BUT I WANT SOME TOOOOO!

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE.

WHOA.

THIS IS FOR ME?

AH!

I HOPE THAT'S OKAY!

NO, THESE LOOK GREAT!

GASP!

Y-YEAH.

WOOOW!

ARE THESE HOMEMADE, BY ANY CHANCE?

O-OH, IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL.

FLINCH

EEP!

WHOOOA!

THESE ARE REALLY GOOD.

MUNCH

MUNCH

THAT'S REALLY IMPRESSIVE!

FUKU-ZAWA-SAN, YOU CAN BAKE?

NOW THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TELL THEM THE TRUTH!!

ゲ!!

STAB!!

C'MON, CHIEF, EVERYONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR OWN LUNCH! HA HA!

HUH?!

AND YOU COOK YOUR OWN LUNCH EVERY DAY, RIGHT?

WHOEVER YOU MARRY IS GONNA BE A LUCKY GUY!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH, AND YOU CAN BAKE.

NO...!! I-I CAN'T COOK AT ALL, REALLY!!

UM, WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS, MY CAT--

OH SHOOT!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!

SERIOUSLY! HA HA!

IF THAT'S YOUR DEFINITION OF "CAN'T COOK," THEN THE REST OF US ARE DOOMED.

"UHH... HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND, FUKUZAWA-SAN?"

"HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?"

"WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS, MY CAT DOES ALL THE COOKING!"

OH, SO YOU'RE JUST BEING MODEST.

I LOOKED UP RECIPES ON THE INTERNET.

I...

I MEAN, YES, I MADE THEM.

GLOOOOM
SORRY, YUKICHI.
I'M A BIG, FAT LIAR.

THAT MY CAT DOES ALL THE HOUSEWORK FOR ME.
I HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT HOW TO EXPLAIN THIS.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY THEY WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THE TRUTH...

I REMEMBER YOUR CAT. SOUNDS LIKE HE'S DOING WELL.
ALL RIGHT!!
IN ANY CASE, I SHOULD TRY TO AVOID TALKING ABOUT YUKICHI OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE!

ABOUT THIS AND THE ESTIMATE FOR C INC...
HERE ARE THE RECORDS YOU WERE ASKING FOR.

I-I MEANT BEFORE THAT!
IT'S STILL WELL BEFORE THE DEADLINE, BUT THEY WANTED...
C INC. ASKED US FOR AN ESTIMATE.
O-OH! SORRY, COME AGAIN ?!
WAIT, HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?!
YES, I DO HAVE A CAT, BUT...!
THANKS.
THE THING ABOUT YOUR CAT? YOU WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT HIM, RIGHT?
SORRY, PHONE CALL.
VRZZ
VRZZ
I'VE MET HIM BEFORE.
?
THEY'VE MET BEFORE ?!
DID HE JUST SAY...
HELLO? THIS IS ORI-ZUKA.

THE EARLIEST I'LL SEE HIM AGAIN IS NEXT WEEK! THIS IS GONNA KEEP ME UP AT NIGHT!!

SIGH...

GA-CLICK

GA-CLICK

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WENT OFF ON A BUSINESS TRIP BEFORE I COULD PRESS HIM FOR DETAILS!

HE'S OUT FOR A MEETING

BYE.

THEN LEFT ON A BUSINESS TRIP

I'M HOME, YUKICHI...

WAFT...

ガチャ

KA-CHAK

NOW I'LL BE ANXIOUS ALL WEEKEND!! HOW CAN I POSSIBLY RELAX?!

AAAH!

SHE ENDED UP HAVING A GREAT NIGHT'S SLEEP.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER TONIGHT?! I WANT BEER, TOO!

THAT SMELLS REALLY GOOD!!

SQUEE!

FWOOO!

ANXIETY

CAN 3 END

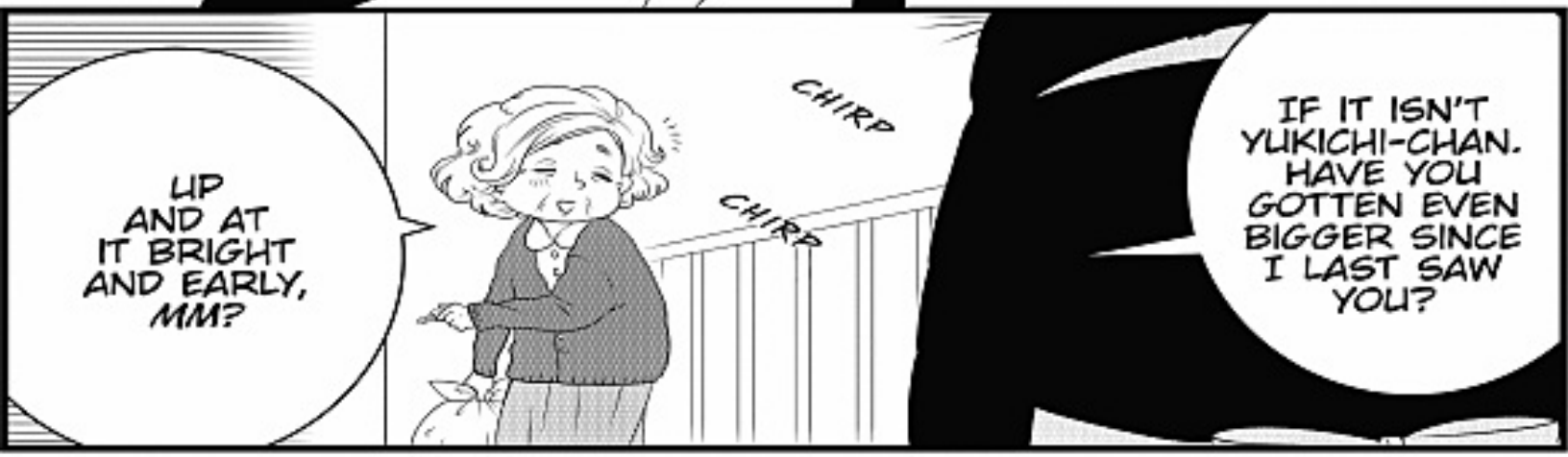
THESE ARE GLASSES THAT BLOCK BLUE LIGHT.

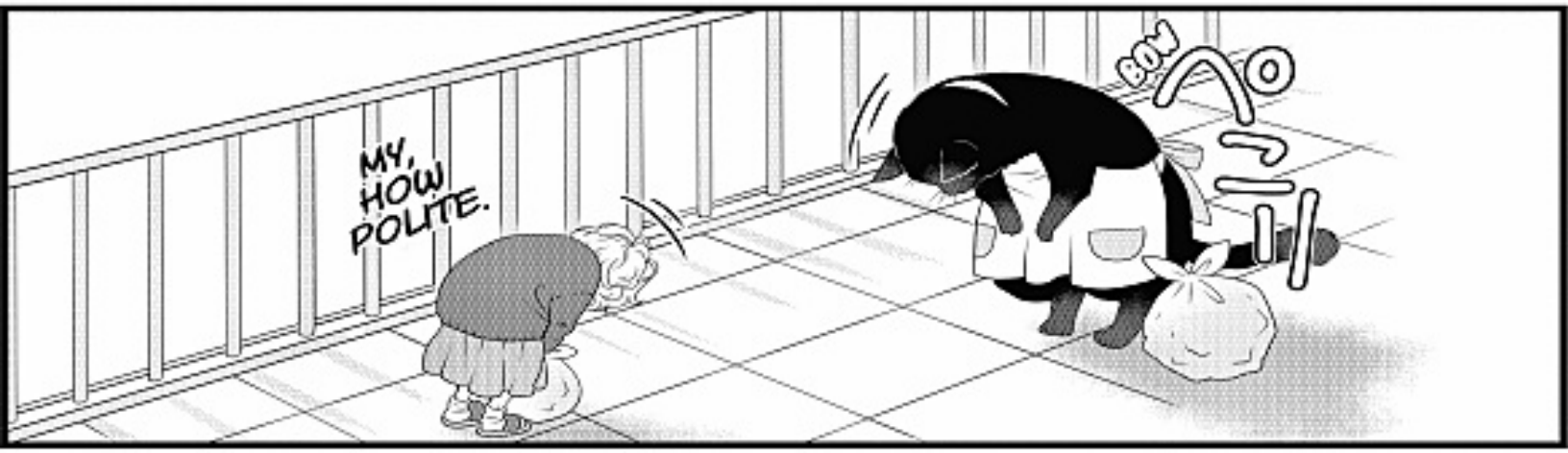
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

4 CAN 4

CHIRP
CHIRP
RUSTLE
カラ
ゴロ
M-CHK

KER-CHAK
MY, MY.


UP AND AT IT BRIGHT AND EARLY, MM?
CHIRP
CHIRP
IF IT ISN'T YUKICHI-CHAN. HAVE YOU GOTTEN EVEN BIGGER SINCE I LAST SAW YOU?

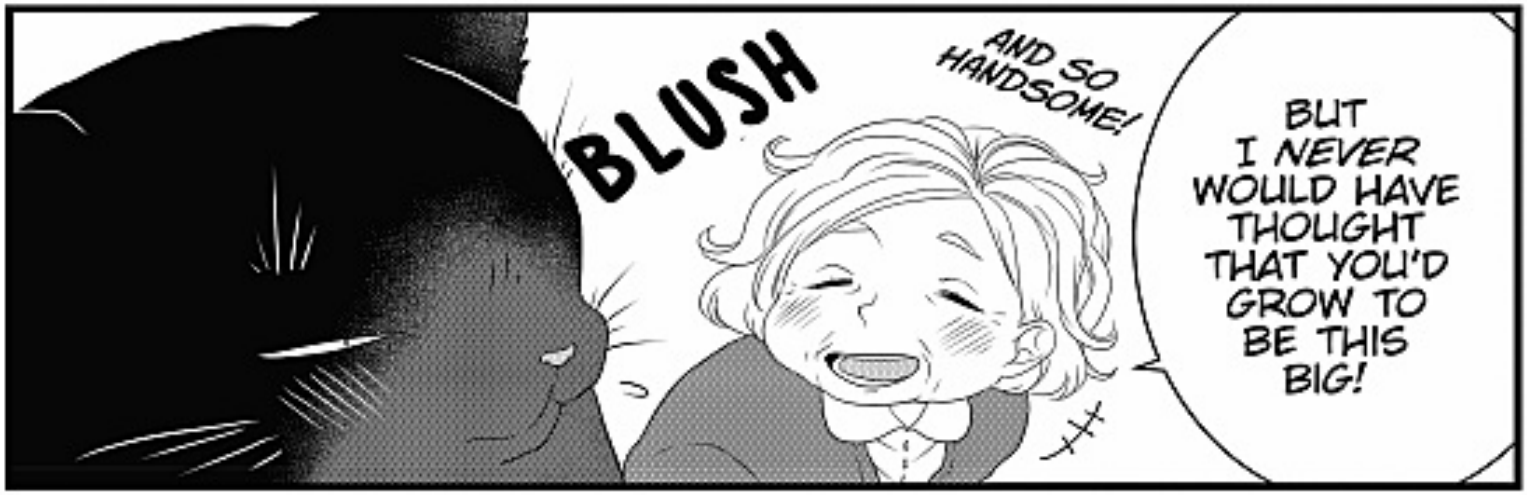

MY, HOW POLITE.
BOW

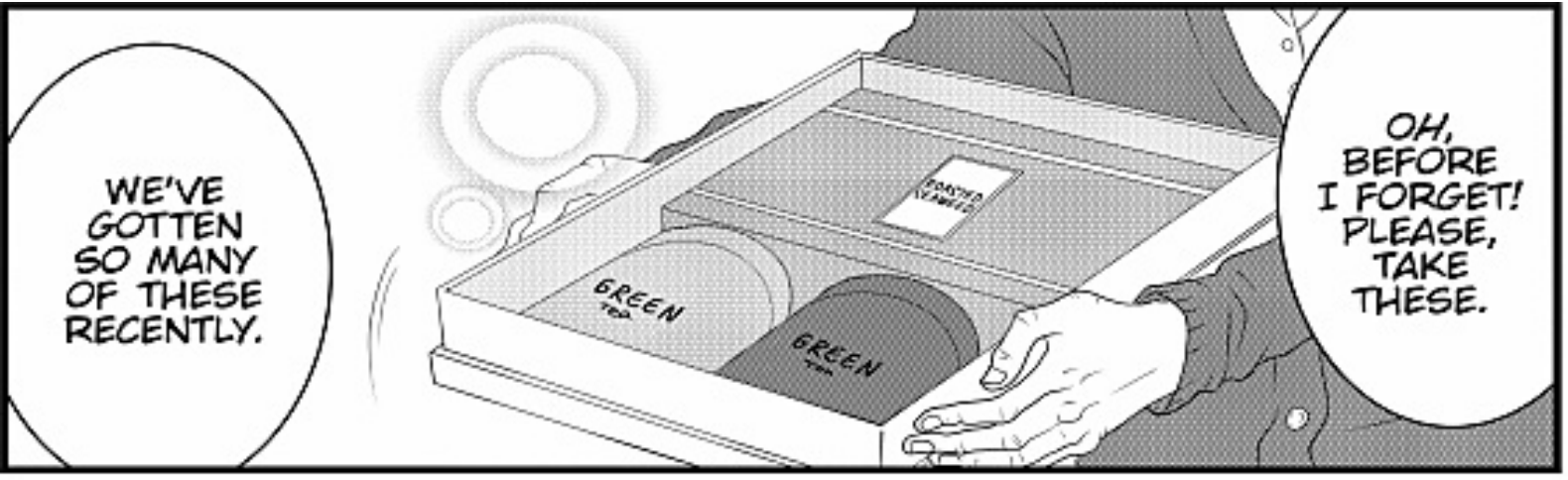
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU CARRY MY TRASH TOO.
カサ
RUSTLE
GLANCE...
CAW
CAW
CAW
CAW
FLINCH
CAW...
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE, YUKICHI-CHAN. WITH YOU AROUND, BIRDS DON'T DARE DIG THROUGH OUR GARBAGE.
FLAP
FLAP

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU STARTED LIVING WITH SAKU-CHAN?

I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER SHE'D BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
WHEN SHE TOOK YOU IN DURING THAT SNOWSTORM, YOU WERE JUST A SICKLY LITTLE KITTEN!

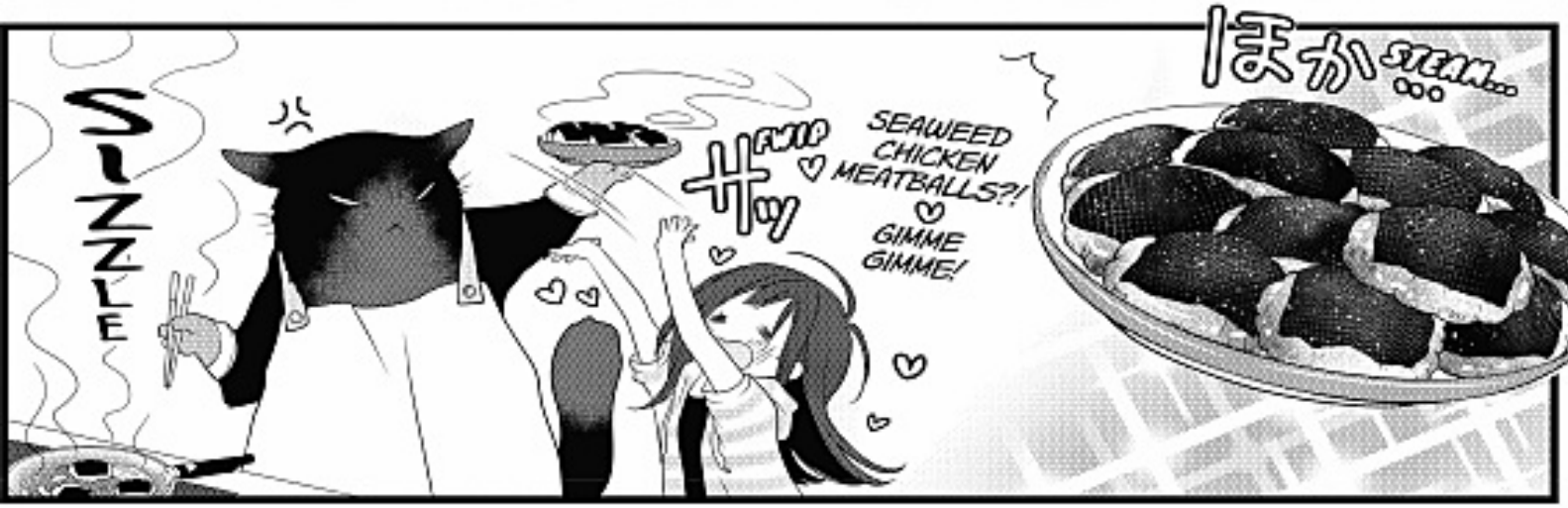
STARE
.....


BLUSH
AND SO HANDSOME!
BUT I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU'D GROW TO BE THIS BIG!


WE'VE GOTTEN SO MANY OF THESE RECENTLY.
GREEN
GREEN
OH, BEFORE I FORGET! PLEASE, TAKE THESE.

PURR PURR PURR PURR
PURR PURR PURR PURR
LIKES SEAWEED

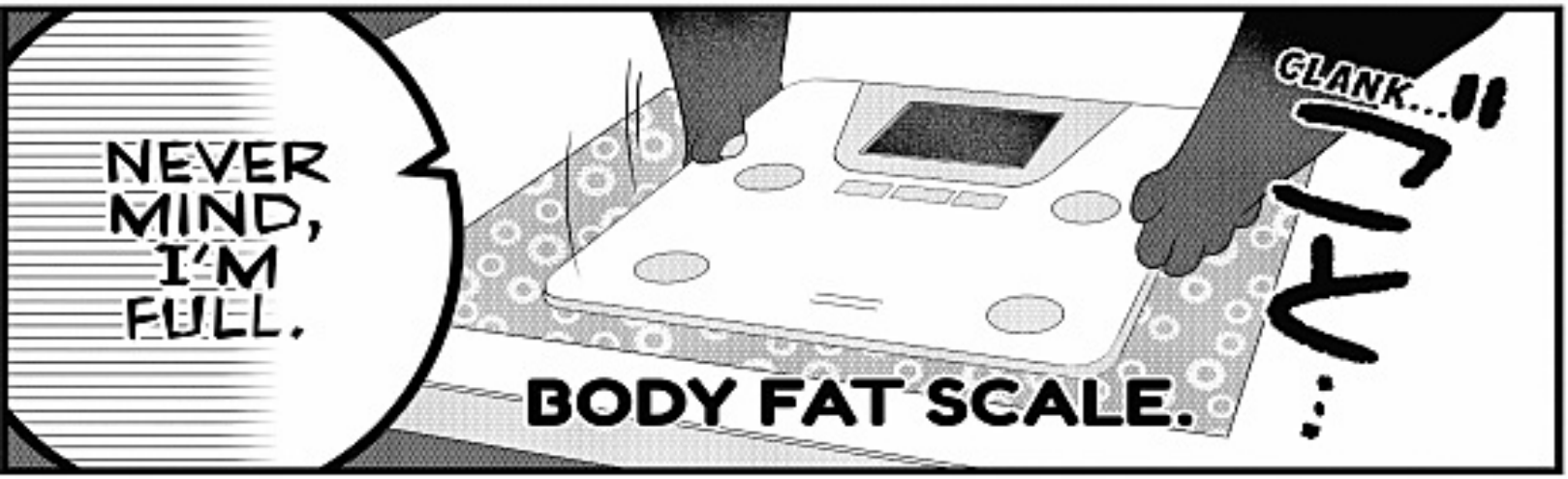
SOMETHING SMELLS REALLY GOOD.
MORNING.
YAWN!
SIZZLE じゅわ〜


SIZZLE
FLIP
SEAWEED CHICKEN MEATBALLS?! GIMME GIMME!
ほか STEAM...

ANOTHER BOWL, YUKICHI!
YOU MAKE THE BEST SEAWEED CHICKEN MEAT-BALLS!!
PHEW!!

I KNOW YOU MADE A TON! QUIT HOGGING THEM ALL FOR YOURSELF!
WHY NOT?!
GRR!
GRR!
NO!

IT'S MY DAY OFF, AFTER ALL.
MAYBE I'LL HAVE ANOTHER BEER!
AHH...
TSK!


NEVER MIND, I'M FULL.
GLANK...!!
BODY FAT SCALE.

TOSS THAT DEMON MACHINE IN THE TRASH!!

GET AWAY FROM ME!!

NOOOOOOOO!

STEP 1

MEASURE WEIGHT WITH THE OWNER.

STEP

BEEP!

AAACK! YOU MONSTER!!

STEP 2

PUT OWNER DOWN AND MEASURE OWN WEIGHT.

STEP

BEEP!

TMP

GET ME AWAY FROM THAT SCALE!

YUKICHI OPTED FOR A MORE CALORIE-LIGHT MENU THAT NIGHT.

DID MY WEIGHT GO UP?! NOOO, MY ANNUAL PHYSICAL IS COMING UP SOON!

SHOCK

SIGN...

THE OWNER'S WEIGHT IS STEP 2 MINUS STEP 1.

CAN 4 END

SEAWEED CHICKEN MEATBALLS OVER RICE

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

OH, HEY!
HAS IT BEEN THREE YEARS ALREADY?
stomp
STOMP
IT'S LITTLE KITTY YUKICHI! ♡ HE WAS SO CUTE.
STOMP
...
?
I'VE GOT A QUESTION FOR YOU.
STARE...
HEY YUKICHI.

YUKICHI...
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND THE RIGHT TIME TO ASK THIS.
?!
YOU LOOK MORE LIKE A BEAR THAN A CAT!!
HOW DID YOU GROW SO BIG?!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
HEY!
DASH
WAIT, THAT'S A SCALE FOR HUMANS! WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF IT'S ACCURATE IN YOUR CASE!!
NO, I WASN'T TRYING TO CALL YOU FAT!
HMPH!
21.3%
BAAAM

BUT YOU'RE NOT A NORMAL CAT AT ALL.
AT FIRST I JUST THOUGHT, "WOW, CATS GROW SO FAST!"
I'D NEVER RAISED A CAT BEFORE.
THEY DON'T MAKE LUNCH OR TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE EITHER!
A NORMAL CAT DOESN'T COOK, CLEAN, OR DO LAUNDRY!
AND, UMM... EVERY-THING ELSE, TOO!
AND THEY DON'T DRAW BATHS FOR ME!
THEY DON'T CHECK THE WEATHER AND MAKE SURE I BRING AN UMBRELLA!
BWAAAHH!
SO, THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF ME!!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW YOU GOT SO BIG?
B-BUT!
A-ANYWAY, YUKICHI...

"I'm so glad to have you by my side."
"Thank you, Yukichi...
"from the bottom of my heart.

I LOOKED ONLINE, BUT I DIDN'T FIND ANY ANSWERS.
I WONDER WHY, THEN.
AW, BUMMER.
SHAKE SHAKE

RIGHT AFTER I TOOK YUKICHI IN, THEN...

WAIT... IF HE CAME HERE...

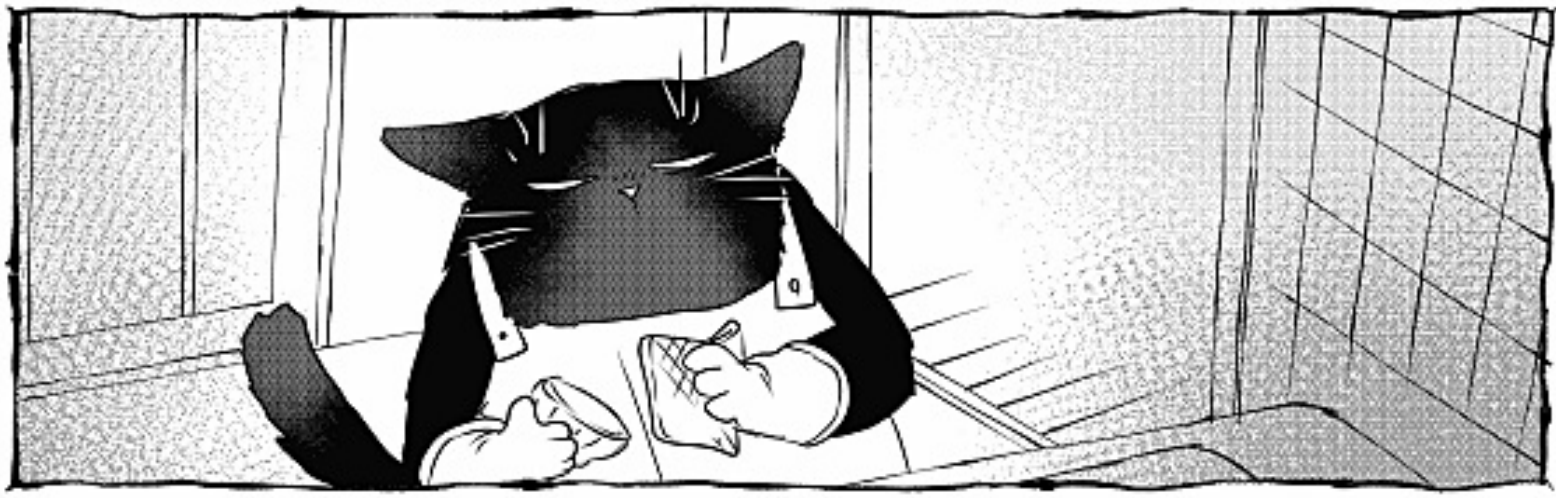
MY BOSS MIGHT HAVE VISITED BEFORE ...!!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
YUKICHI!! WHAT DO I DO?! HOW DO YOU WIPE A PERSON'S MEMORY?!
SHUDDER
HE MAY HAVE BEEN HERE RIGHT AFTER I TOOK YOU IN!!
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE THE MEMORY BY GOING TO BED!!
WAAAAAAH!
HIDE...

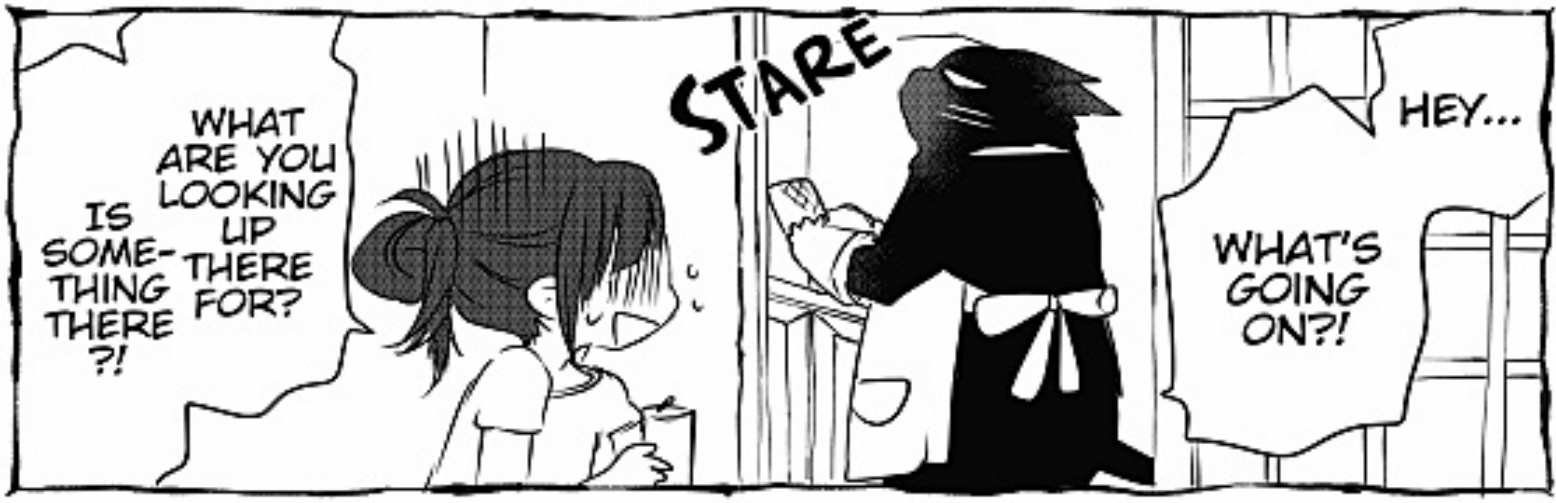
BECAUSE THIS PLACE WAS, UM, A LITTLE... VERY? KIND OF... MESSY...
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
I FEEL REALLY BAD ABOUT IT, YOU KNOW?
I'M SORRY. IT WAS A PIGSTY. A TOXIC JUNGLE. A SEA OF DECAY.
WAIT A SEC!
WHAT IF...?!
OUCH !!
THWAP!
WHAT IF YOU WERE INFECTED BY SOME STRANGE NEW BACTERIA BACK THEN AND IT TURNED YOU INTO A MUTANT?!

SHE DRANK UNTIL SHE FORGOT HER PROBLEMS.

CAN 5 END

HIS OWNER WON'T SHUT UP IF HE SQUASHES THE BUG, SO HE HAS TO USE BUG SPRAY INSTEAD.




STARE
HEY...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING UP THERE FOR?
IS SOMETHING THERE ?!

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!
IS THERE A BUG?! A GHOST ?!
SIIIGH...
HE FOUND A GREASE STAIN ON A SPOT HE'D JUST CLEANED EARLIER TODAY.
EEP!
WHAT'S WITH THAT SIGH?!

6 CAN 6

WHAT SHOULD I MAKE FOR DINNER?

SHOCK
?!

THERE IS NO WAY THAT'S A CAT TRYING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO HEADS OF CABBAGE !!
IF I RAISE A FUSS, PEOPLE WILL THINK I'M CRAZY.
GOD, I'M SO TIRED I'M SEEING THINGS.
IS THAT A BEAR? NO, A CAT?

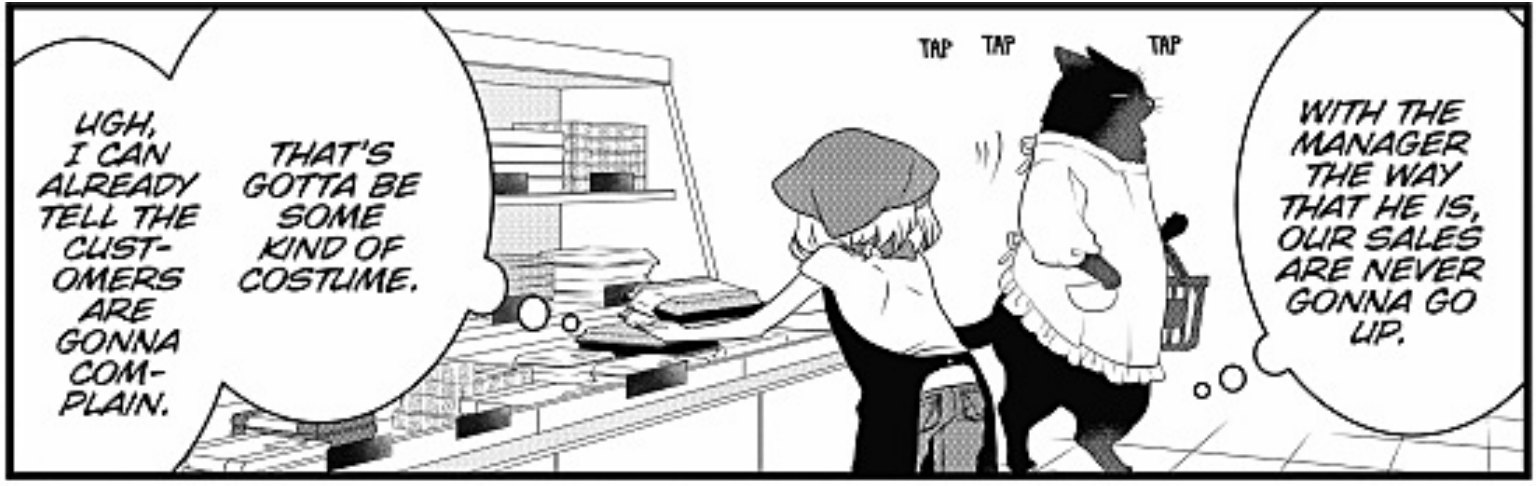
HE WEARS THIS SMOCK APRON OUT TO THE SUPERMARKET AS A COAT TO CATCH SHEDDING HAIR.
AND WHY'S IT WEARING AN APRON?!
GULP

I MUST SAY SOMETHING TO HIM TODAY! I AM THE MANAGER, AFTER ALL!!
WHAT ?!
HEY, BOSS. THE CAT'S HERE AGAIN. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

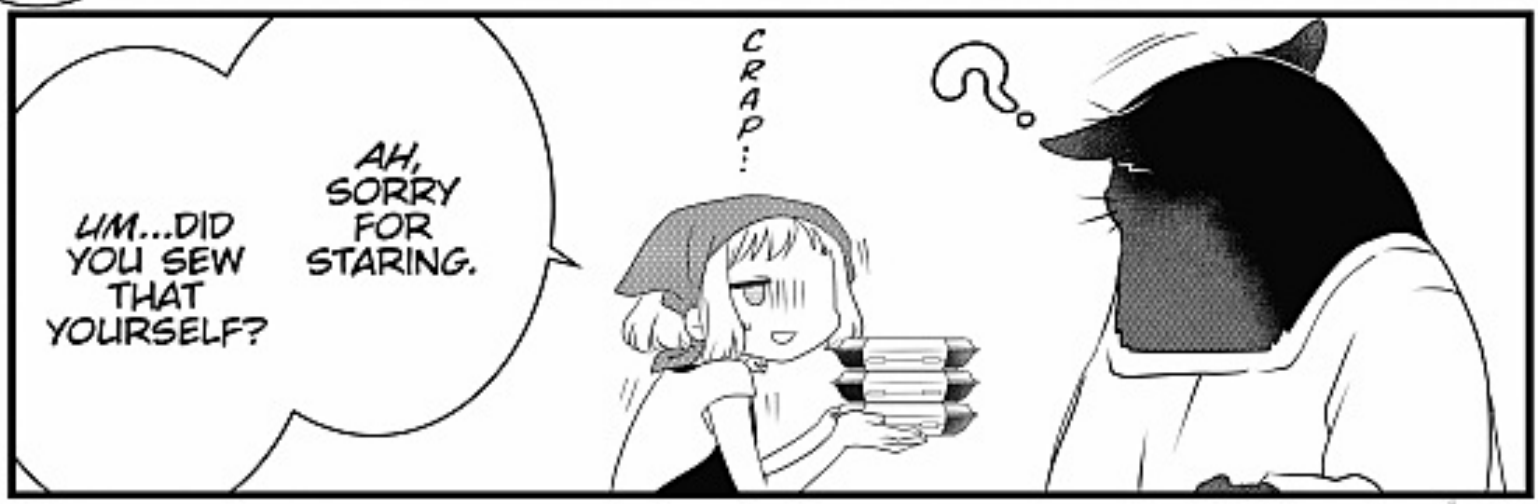
"SIR"?
HELLO, SIR!

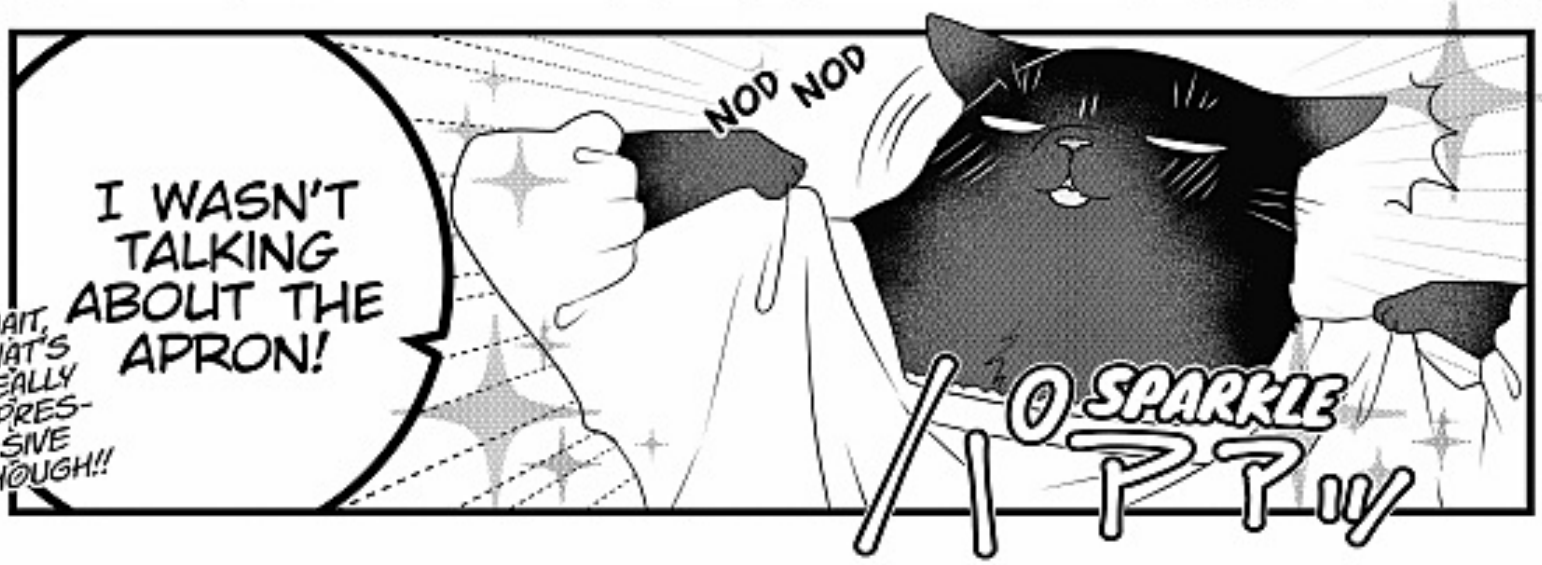
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE!
?

YES!!
SO I ASSUME THAT MEANS HE'S ALLOWED IN THE STORE?
WHOA!
HIS PADS WERE SO SQUISHY...!


UGH, I CAN ALREADY TELL THE CUST-OMERS ARE GONNA COM-PLAIN.
THAT'S GOTTA BE SOME KIND OF COSTUME.
TAP TAP TAP
WITH THE MANAGER THE WAY THAT HE IS, OUR SALES ARE NEVER GONNA GO UP.

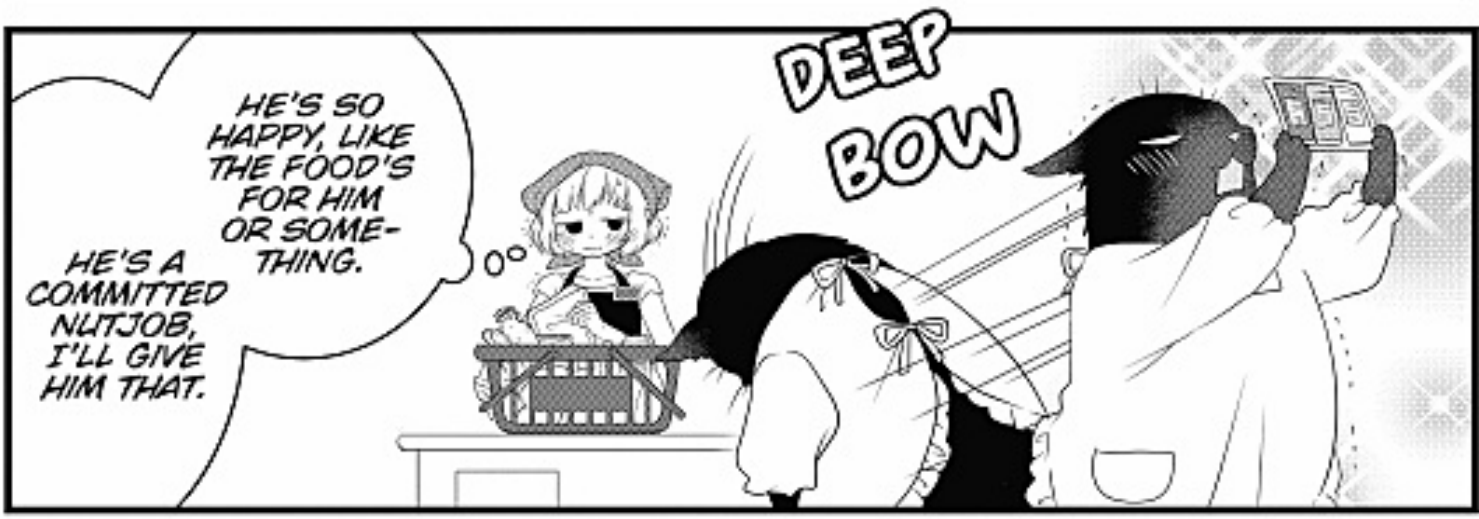
GLANCE
!
DON'T SEE A ZIPPER OR ANYTHING.
GOTTA ADMIT THOUGH, IT DOES LOOK REAL.


UM...DID YOU SEW THAT YOURSELF?
AH, SORRY FOR STARING.
CRAP...

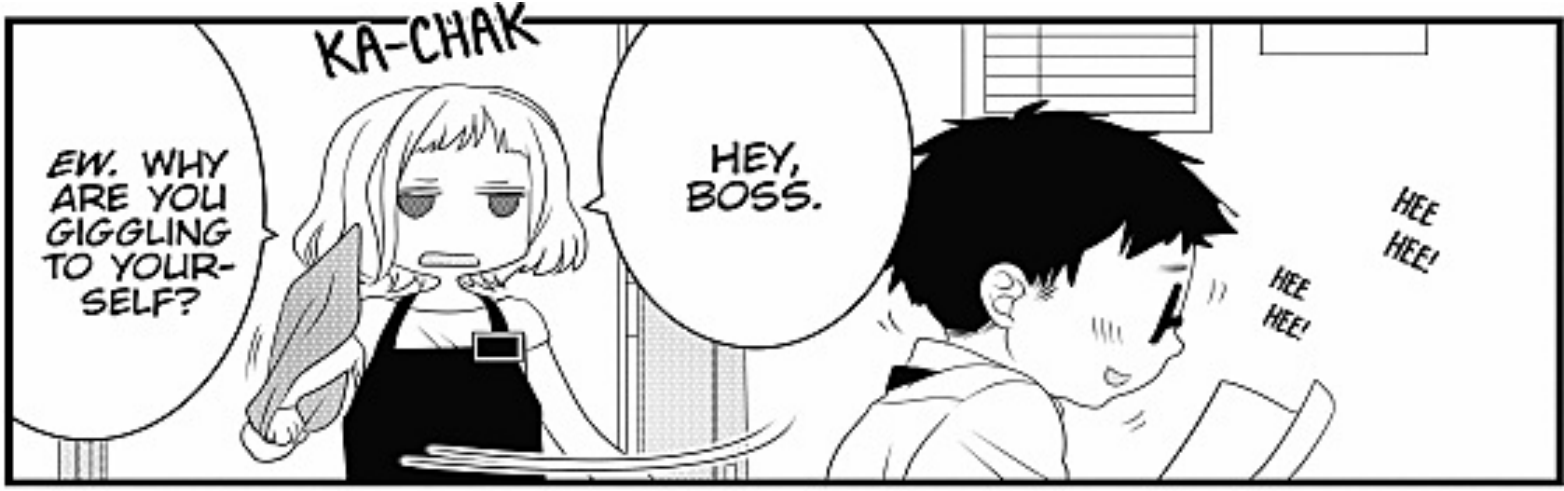

I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THE APRON!
WAIT, THAT'S REALLY IMPRES-SIVE THOUGH!!
NOD NOD
SPARKLE

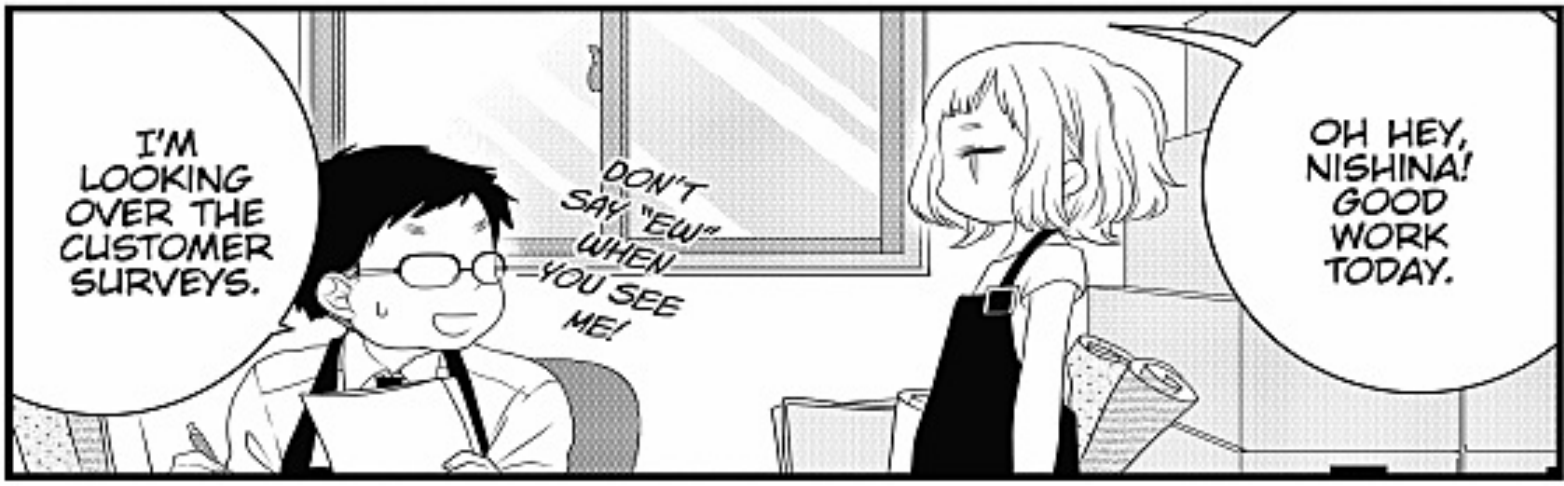
DO YOU HAVE A POINTS CARD WITH US?
YOUR TOTAL COMES OUT TO 2,560 YEN.
BEEP
BEEP
HE MAY BE SOME NUTJOB IN A CAT COSTUME, BUT COLOR ME IMPRESSED.

WE HAVE FREE SAMPLES OF THE NEW CHURU BRAND CAT TREATS. WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO ADD IT TO YOUR BASKET?
OH, IF YOU'RE BUYING CAT FOOD ...

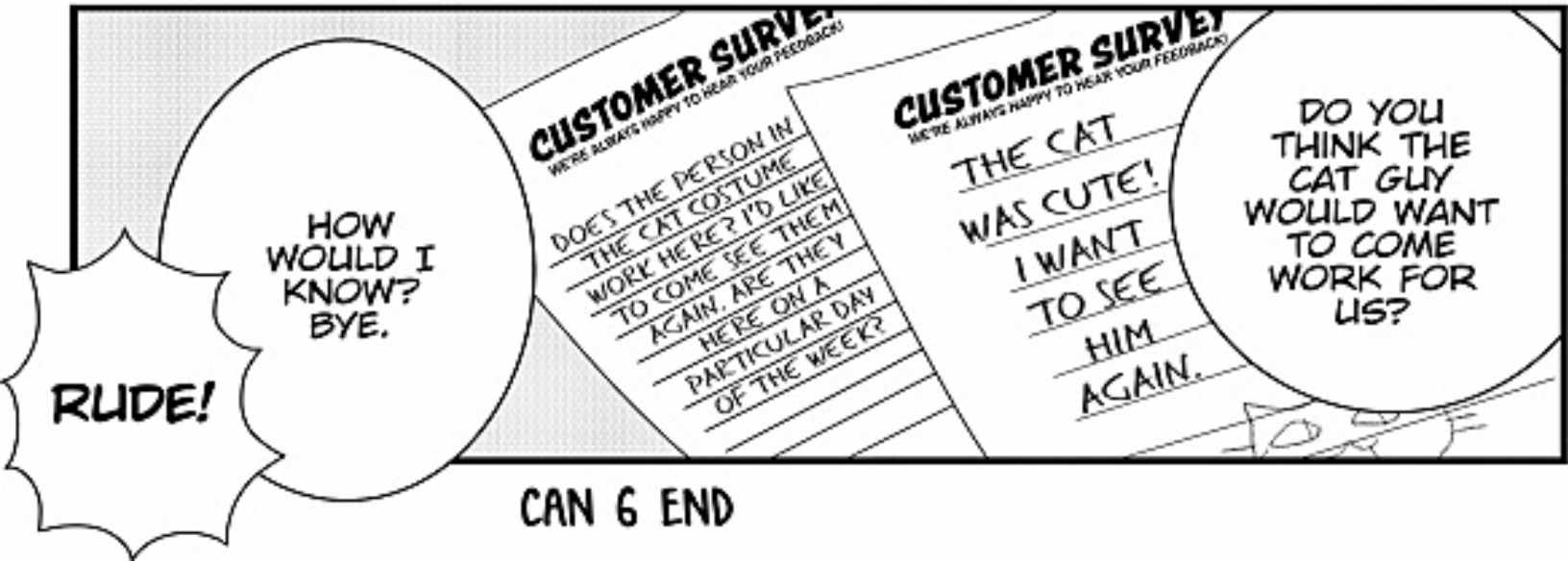

HE'S SO HAPPY, LIKE THE FOOD'S FOR HIM OR SOMETHING.
HE'S A COMMITTED NUTJOB, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT.
DEEP BOW

PLEASE COME AGAIN.
SQUEAK


KA-CHAK
EW. WHY ARE YOU GIGGLING TO YOURSELF?
HEY, BOSS.
HEE HEE!
HEE HEE!


I'M LOOKING OVER THE CUSTOMER SURVEYS.
DON'T SAY "EW" WHEN YOU SEE ME!
OH HEY, NISHINA! GOOD WORK TODAY.

!
RUSTLE
READ THIS.


RUDE!
HOW WOULD I KNOW? BYE.
CUSTOMER SURVEY
WE'RE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK!
DOES THE PERSON IN THE CAT COSTUME WORK HERE? I'D LIKE TO COME SEE THEM AGAIN. ARE THEY HERE ON A PARTICULAR DAY OF THE WEEK?
CUSTOMER SURVEY
WE'RE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK!
THE CAT WAS CUTE! I WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN.
DO YOU THINK THE CAT GUY WOULD WANT TO COME WORK FOR US?

CAN 6 END

NOOO, I LOST AGAIN!

THIS IS FUKUZAWA FROM SALES. I'VE RECEIVED THE OKAY FROM THE VENUE. YES.
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
I'LL SUMMARIZE THE DETAILS AND SEND THEM OVER.
DISCARD
SEND
CLICK
PLEASE TAKE A LOOK, THANK YOU.
7 CAN 7
WAAAAH!
SAKU-SENPAAA!! D CO. JUST RESCHEDULED ON US LAST MINUTE!
LET ME SEE.
BUT WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THAT I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING ...?
OH!
ORIZUKA-KUN, YOU'RE BACK.
OKAY, LOOKS GOOD! YOU'RE EVEN QUICKER THAN USUAL TODAY, FUKUZAWA-KUN!
OH, I JUST MANAGED TO GET A LOT OF SLEEP THIS WEEKEND! HA HA!
YOU'RE A LIFESAVER!
AH HA HA!

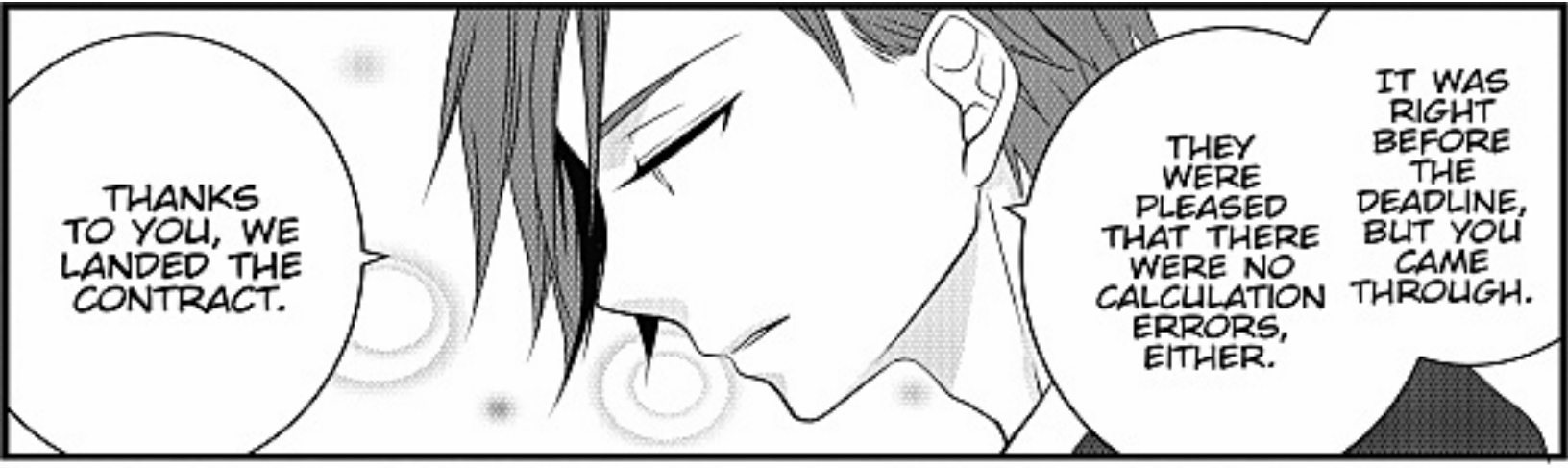
EXCUSE ME, IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I BORROW FUKUZAWA FOR A BIT?
I'M BACK.
YOU MUST BE TIRED FROM YOUR TRIP TO KYOTO.
I HAVE A MEETING WITH THEM NOW, SO IF YOU AND SHIBASAKI COULD...
THANK YOU FOR HANDLING THE SITUATION WITH D CO.
AHHH! I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT THAT!!
"YUKICHI!! WHAT DO I DO?! MY BOSS MIGHT HAVE VISITED BEFORE!!"

THIS...
THIS IS AWKWARD.

HE ALREADY THINKS I'M A TOTAL SLOB.
IF I DON'T GET IT TOGETHER, HE'S GONNA ADD "SHIFTY WEIRDO" ON TOP OF THAT!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
THIS IS SO AWKWARD!
AHH, I WISH I COULD DISAPPEAR. CAN I GO HOME YET?

HER DAY DRE-AM.
ABOUT LAST WEEK'S SALES QUOTE...
AND THEN WE'D HAVE RAMEN FOR DINNER...
FLAPPING HOT
WISH I WERE HOME NOW.
I WANT YUKICHI'S HOMEMADE GYOZA AND AN ICE-COLD BEER.

I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE SALES QUOTE I HAD YOU WRITE UP FOR C INC...
UH, NO.
SOUNDS GOOD!!
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT LEEK AND GOAT CHEESE TART?!


THANKS TO YOU, WE LANDED THE CONTRACT.
THEY WERE PLEASED THAT THERE WERE NO CALCULATION ERRORS, EITHER.
IT WAS RIGHT BEFORE THE DEADLINE, BUT YOU CAME THROUGH.

IT'S LIKE YOU'VE BECOME AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PERSON.
RECENTLY ...
HUH?
EH?
WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED HERE YOU WERE ALWAYS LOOKING AT YOUR FEET, SO YOU CAME OFF AS A BIT UNRELIABLE, BUT...

YEAH. AND YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING WELL, TOO.
BUGGGGR
UH...! H-HAVE I REALLY CHANGED THAT MUCH?

NOO-OOO-OOO-OO!!
ヒィ!!
JOLT
IS IT BECAUSE OF YOUR CAT?

S-SO YOU DID KNOW!
D-Zo...
WHAT ARE YOU SCREAMING FOR?!

YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
I'LL TELL YOU, BUT LET ME PREFACE THIS BY SAYING I DIDN'T GO BECAUSE I WANTED TO!
QUIVER
QUIVER
WHEN WAS IT?! WHEN DID YOU COME TO MY (FILTHY) APARTMENT ?!

AND WHEN I ASKED IF YOU WERE OKAY GETTING HOME...
I STOPPED BY A BAR ON THE WAY HOME, AND YOU JUST HAPPENED TO BE THERE, TOTALLY PLASTERED.
IT WAS RIGHT AFTER YOU HAD STARTED AT THE OFFICE.

PLEASE, GIVE ME THIRTY SECONDS TO DO SOME DEEP BREATHING EXERCISES BEFORE YOU CONTINUE.
STOP!!
YOU THREW UP AND GOT US BOTH THROWN OUT... SHOULD I GO ON?

SO THEN, I WOUND UP ESCORTING YOU BACK TO YOUR PLACE.
DON'T FALL ASLEEP ON ME!
HNNGH.
WE'RE HERE.
Do you have your keys? Is there anyone living with you who can get the door?
Yep, there *suuu-uure* is!

Okay, so can you use the inter-com and--
I got a *cuuute* lil' kitty-cat at home!
Ah. So no one with opposable thumbs.
SIGH.
Looks like we need that key after all.
All righty!

KA-CHAK
ガチャッ
Seriously?
CLATTER
CLATTER
Nowww... where's my bag...?

UKWWWACK

DID THIS CAT JUST UNLOCK THE DOOR?
NO, THERE'S NO WAY.
I BET FUKUZAWA-SAN JUST FORGOT TO LOCK THE DOOR.

Heeey! I'm home, Yuki--
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
Bff!
WHOMP!

OWIE! YOU SLAPPED MEEE!
BOW
WHAT WUZZAT FOR?!

DID THIS CAT JUST...
NO...
I MUST BE DRUNKER THAN I THOUGHT.
I NEED TO GET HOME AND GO TO BED.

AND THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED.
I WISH YOU'D TOLD ME EARLIER...
YOU DIDN'T ASK.
BECAUSE I HAD ZERO MEMORY OF IT!!
B-BUT, UM...
EH HEH HEH...
YOU TURNED AND LEFT AT THE DOOR, RIGHT?
YOU DIDN'T GO INSIDE... DID YOU?
RELAX. NO MAN WOULD GET ANY IDEAS IN THAT GARBAGE DUMP.
thud!
AHHHH! SO YOU DID SEE!!

I AM SO SORRY!
MAKING SURE YOU GET HOME SAFE IS PART OF MY JOB AS YOUR BOSS.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
PLEASE ACCEPT MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES FOR ANY DISTRESS YOU MAY HAVE SUFFERED!

PLEASE! I OWE YOU!
ANYTHING, HUH?
LET ME MAKE IT UP TO YOU! I CAN RUN ERRANDS FOR YOU! I'LL DO ANYTHING, PLEASE!

IT'S DONE! WHAT IS IT?!
OKAY, I'VE GOT A FAVOR I'D LIKE TO ASK THEN.
OH, RIGHT. IT'S THIS WEEK.

I WANT YOU TO COME TO THE AQUARIUM WITH ME.
ARE YOU FREE SUNDAY?

I'M HOME, YUKICHI.

I'LL HAVE DINNER IN A BIT.

I'M GONNA HOP IN THE BATH FIRST.

ALSO, I'M GOING OUT THIS SUNDAY.

DON'T LOOK SO SURPRISED!

AND...IT'S WITH MY BOSS, WEIRDLY ENOUGH.

WE'RE GOING TO THE AQUARIUM.

!!

APPARENTLY, SOME SEA SLUG-THEMED IDOL GROUP CALLED UMYU-SEA* IS PUTTING ON A CONCERT.

*"Umyu-Sea" sounds like the Japanese word for sea slug.

HE ASKED HER TO BUY SOME SEA BUNNY-CHAN MERCH FOR HIM.

YOU HAVE A FAVORITE?! WH-WHICH, UH, SEA SLUG?!

TH-THIS IS TOTALLY UNEXPECTED.

SEA BUNNY

LET ME LOOK THEM UP ON YOUTUBE!!

WHAT?! YOU KNOW THEM, YUKICHI?!

ARE THEY FAMOUS?!

CAN 7 END

SEA SLUG IDOLS
UMYU-Sea LIVE
10.13 sun 2:00 ~
THE OCEAN'S IDOLS ARE COMING TO THE ENOTORI AQUARIUM!
A SPECIAL MEET-AND-GREET EVENT!
SUPER DEBUT!!
ANSWER OUR QUIZ AND GET LIMITED-EDITION MERCH!!

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

I HAD TO GO INTO WORK ON SATURDAY. I'VE EARNED THE RIGHT TO SLEEP IN TODAY...

SHAKE

SHAKE

MMM! MMM!

WHAT IS IT, YUKICHI ...?

HMM?

THE CONCERT'S NOT UNTIL SUNDAY...

FLIP

umyu-Sea LIVE 10.13

.....

SUN... DAY...

WHAT TIME IS IT?!

JOLT

がばっ

TODAY'S SUNDAY ?!

*Sekihan, a dish made with sticky rice and red beans, is customarily served on special, celebratory occasions.

IT'S THE EQUIVALENT OF WORKING OVERTIME!!
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?!
I WANT SECONDS!!
I'M JUST GOING TO THIS CONCERT WITH MY BOSS BECAUSE HE ASKED ME TO!

I SHOULD PROBABLY JUST WEAR MY CASUAL CLOTHES.
HEY... WOULD IT BE WEIRD TO WEAR A SUIT TO THE AQUARIUM?

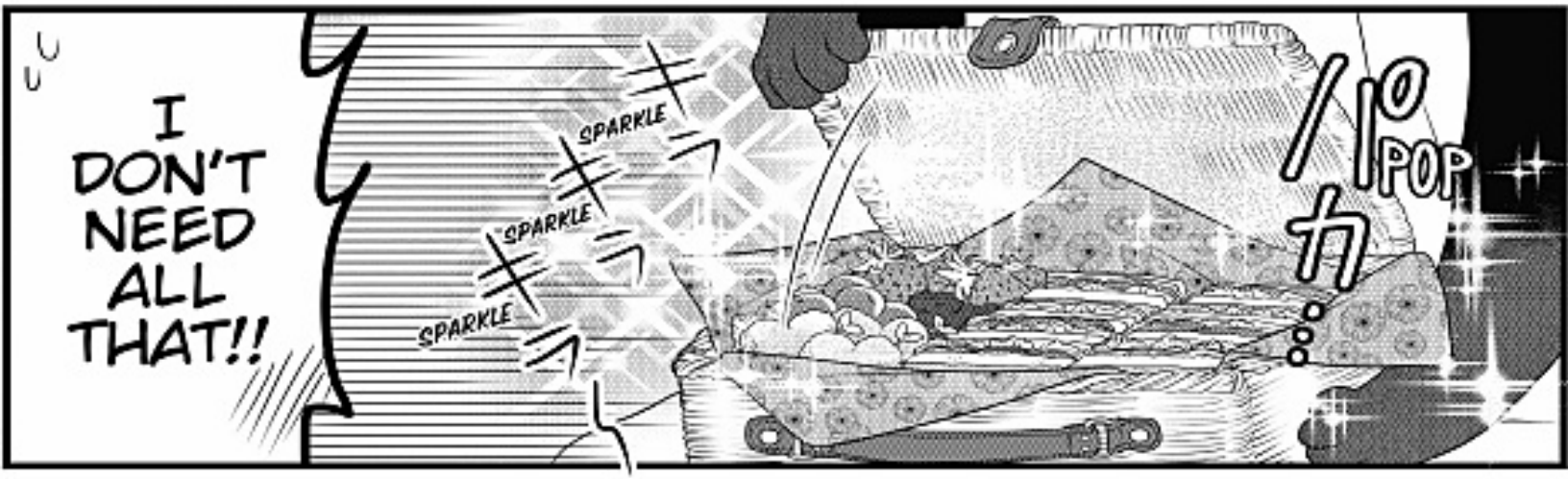
ALL LOUNGEWEAR THAT SHE BOUGHT AGES AGO
WRINKLED
WORN OUT

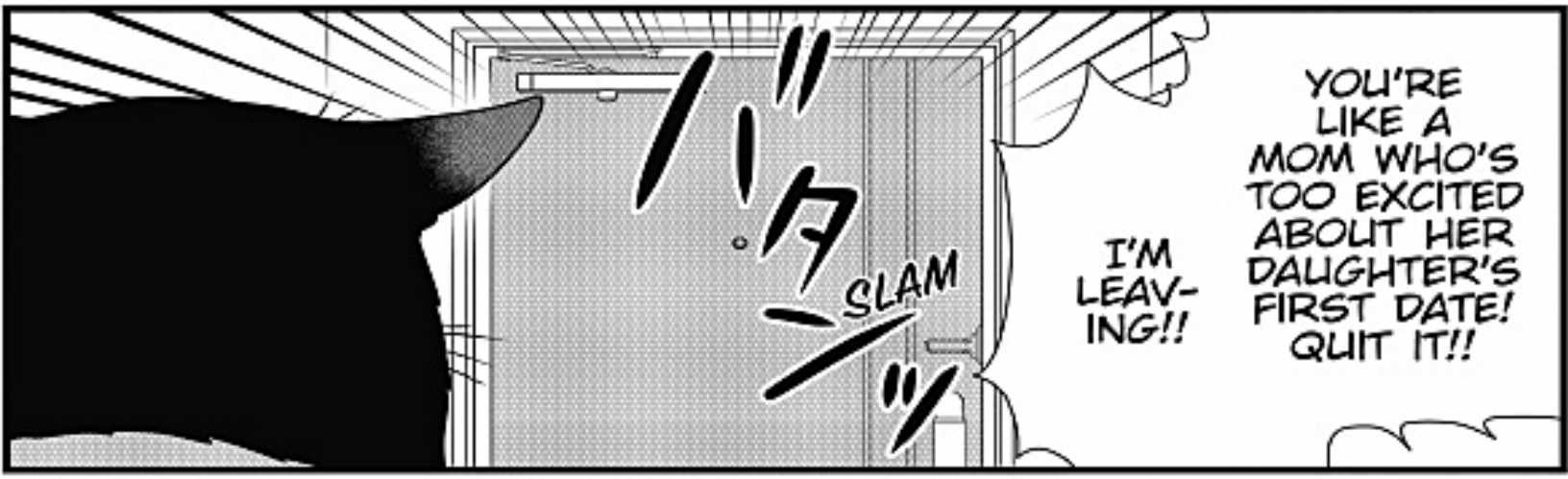
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE I LAST BOUGHT CLOTHES?
SHUDDER

OR IF I HADN'T OVER-SLEPT TODAY!
AAH! I WOULD'VE HAD TIME IF I HADN'T GONE INTO WORK YESTERDAY!!
SHWIP
CLATTER
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GO OUT IN THESE!!
THIS...THIS WAS THE DRESS I WORE TO MY CLASSMATE'S WEDDING RECEPTION YEARS AGO!
YES!!
AWOOF
THANK GOD!!
AND IT'S NOT TOO FORMAL, EITHER! THIS COULD WORK!
NEVER MIND. THE GODS HAVE FORSAKEN ME.
NNH...
HNGH!
TIGHT!

I'M JUST GONNA HAVE TO WEAR THE SUIT!!
I'LL SAY I HAD TO GO INTO THE OFFICE THIS MORNING...
WAAAHH!
BAM!
YUKI-CHIII!!
YUKICHI ?!
WHAT ARE YOU...?!
RATA-TAT-TAT RATA-TAT-TAT
SNIP
SNIP
HEY!
WHA ?!
THIS IS CRAZY!!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
IT FITS!!
WHOAAA!!
NEVER MIND.
DEALING WITH LOOSE STITCHES.
HEY...IF I ASKED FOR A PUMPKIN CARRIAGE COULD YOU MAKE THAT HAPPEN TOO?

HM?
WHAT'S THAT?
SHWIF
YOU'RE A LIFESAVER, YUKICHI!
I'LL BUY YOU SOME CAT TREATS ON THE WAY BACK!


I DON'T NEED ALL THAT!!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
POP


SLAM
I'M LEAV-ING!!
YOU'RE LIKE A MOM WHO'S TOO EXCITED ABOUT HER DAUGHTER'S FIRST DATE! QUIT IT!!

KA-KLAK...
SO WRAP IT UP AND LEAVE IT IN THE FRIDGE FOR ME.
I'LL EAT IT WHEN I GET HOME...

CAN 8 END

A PUMPKIN CARRIAGE

キラキラリ～ SHIMMING

BIBBIDI-BOBBIDI-BOO!

CHING

CHING

THE LAND OF THE DEAD

?

?

*Yukichi is thinking of a tradition during Obon where families make horses and cows out of cucumbers and eggplants to carry their ancestors' spirits between the living and the afterlife.

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

BUSTLE
BUSTLE
江ノ島
Enotori
CHATTER
CHATTER
9 CAN 9
BLANK STARE
I'M IMPRESSED.
YOU'RE RIGHT ON TIME, FUKUZAWA.
WELCOME TO ENOTORI
HUH ?!
WHA ?!
TINY ちっまい
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO.
BUS STOP
WHO IS THIS MAN?!

BOTH OF HER PARENTS ARE BUSY TODAY...
SO THEY LEFT HER WITH ME.
?
STARE
I'M KIDDING.
THIS KID IS MY NIECE, YUME.

YUME IS A BIG FAN.
AND...
NOD
UMYU-SEA IS GONNA BE THERE!
OH... SO, SHE WANTED TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM?

BUT TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT GREAT WITH KIDS.
?
I KNOW YOU WERE BASICALLY COERCED INTO COMING ALONG...

WAIT, DID HE JUST COVER HER EARS FOR THE PARTS HE DIDN'T WANT HER TO HEAR?!
YAY!
POP
ALL RIGHT, YUME, THIS NICE LADY IS GOING TO PLAY WITH YOU TODAY.
SO YOUR FAVOR CAME AT THE PERFECT TIME!

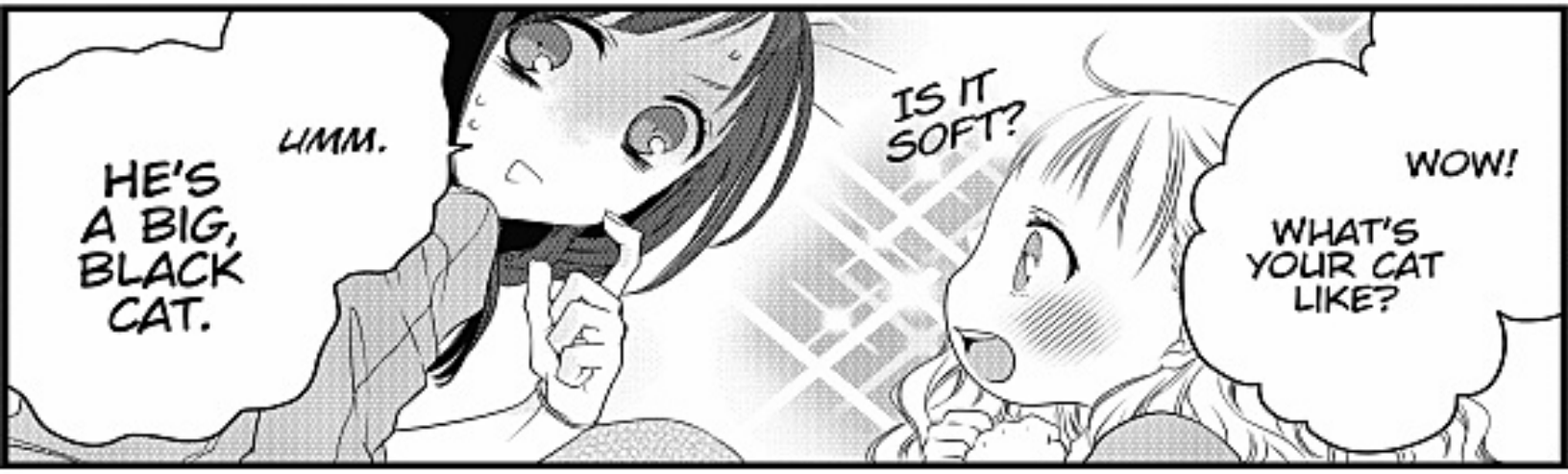
HEY, MISS?
WHAT TO DO...?
BUT I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO HANDLE KIDS, EITHER.
I SEE NOW. I'M BASICALLY HERE AS A BABY-SITTER.

IT'S CUTE!
EH HEH!
I LIKE THE RIBBON ON YOUR BACK.

キュン
?!
GYAAAH!
※ THE SOUND OF YUME CAPTURING HER HEART.

WON OVER JUST LIKE THAT, HUH?
BOSS!!
LET'S GO, BOSS!!
C'MON!
GYAH!
LET'S HAVE FUN TODAY, YUME-CHAN!!

SHE HAS ONE.
CRAP, I WALKED RIGHT INTO THAT!
DO YOU LIKE CATS?
YEAH! I LIKE KITTY-CATS.
IT'S SHAPED LIKE A CAT!
YOUR BAG IS REALLY CUTE, YUME-CHAN!


UMM.
HE'S A BIG, BLACK CAT.
IS IT SOFT?
WOW!
WHAT'S YOUR CAT LIKE?

SPIN
LIKE THAT BIG?
HUH?

WHIRL
SORRY, I'VE GOT A CALL.
???

PHEW...
THAT WAS YUKICHI, WASN'T IT?! WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?!
ALSO, HOW DID HE GET HERE?!

BUT I CAN'T LEAVE YUME-CHAN ALL BY HERSELF!
I SHOULD GO CHECK WHILE THE BOSS IS STILL ON THE PHONE.

YUME-CHAN!!
LOST
WAIT, WHERE'D SHE GO?!

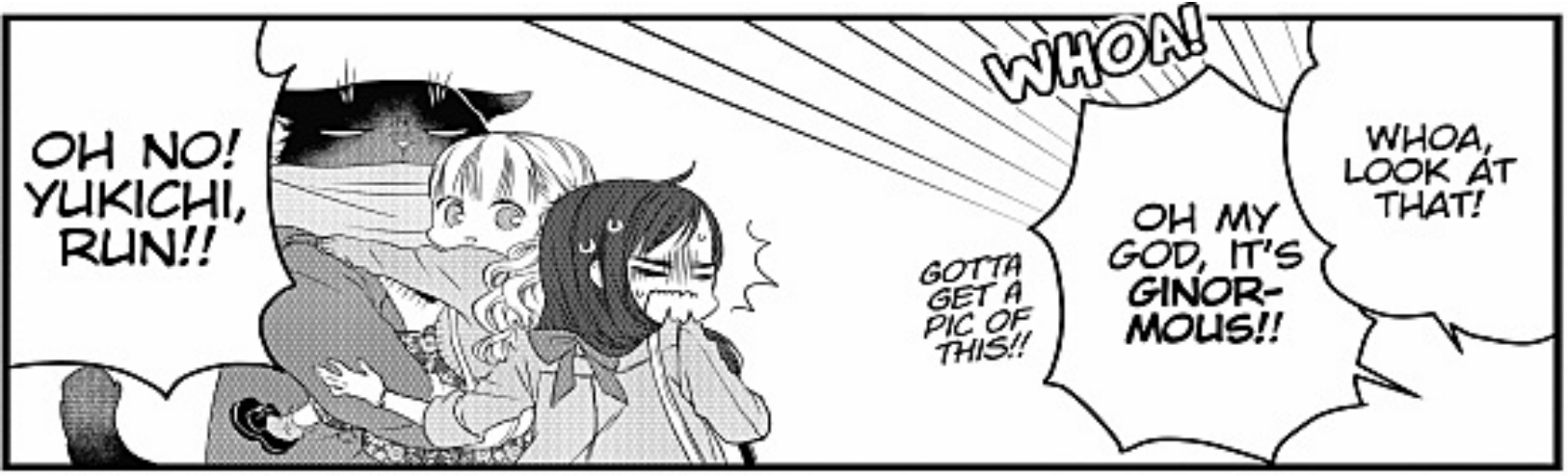
YUME-CHAAAAN!!
AAAAAH!
YOU'RE SO SOFT, CAT-SAN!

THE SAME GOES FOR CATS YOU DON'T KNOW!!
BUT HE'S NOT A PERSON.
YOU SHOULDN'T GO AROUND HUGGING PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW, YUME-CHAN!!

AND HOW DID YOU GET HERE, ANYWAY?!
DON'T TSK ME!!
DON'T TELL ME...YOU TOOK THE TRAIN?!
TSK!
YUKICHI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

CAT-SAN'S NAME IS YUKI-CHAN?
GAPE
GAPE
NOD
RATTLE
RATTLE
SURPRISINGLY, NO ONE NOTICED HIM.

SO NOW HE'S A CAT THAT I KNOW!
TEE HEE HEE!
I LEARNED HIS NAME!


OH NO! YUKICHI, RUN!!
WHOA!
GOTTA GET A PIC OF THIS!!
OH MY GOD, IT'S GINOR-MOUS!!
WHOA, LOOK AT THAT!

ACK, SORRY DUDE!
THUD!
EEP!
WAIT UP!
TUMP
TUMP
TUMP

WOW!
CLICK!
LET ME USE IT!

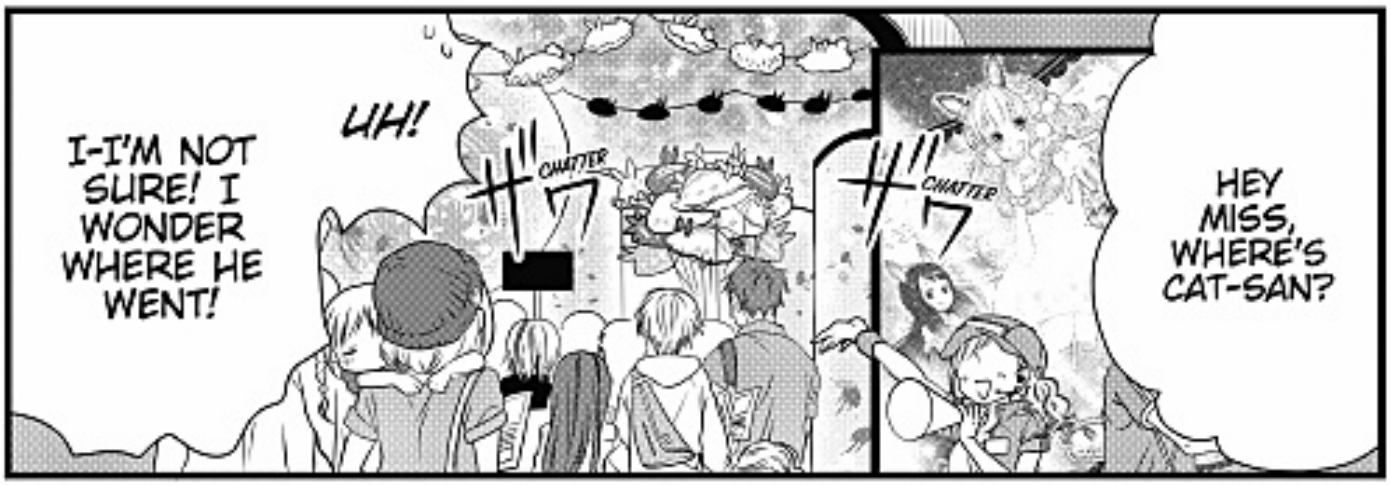
WHY DOESN'T ANYBODY SEEM TO CARE...?
AAH!
OOH!
OOH!
WHOA, SO COOL!
AAH!

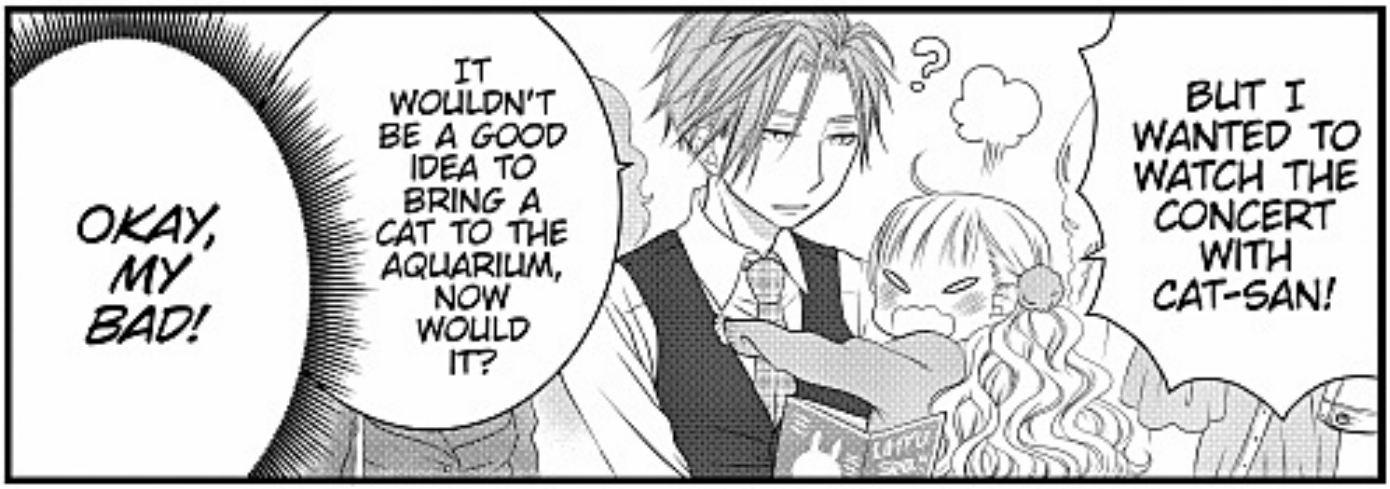
HURRY AND GO BEFORE SOME-BODY--
HELLO, FISHIES!
HEY, YUKICHI! THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BE CASUALLY WATCHING THE FISH!

CRAP !!
FUNCH
O-OH ?!
SORRY ABOUT THAT, FUKUZAWA.

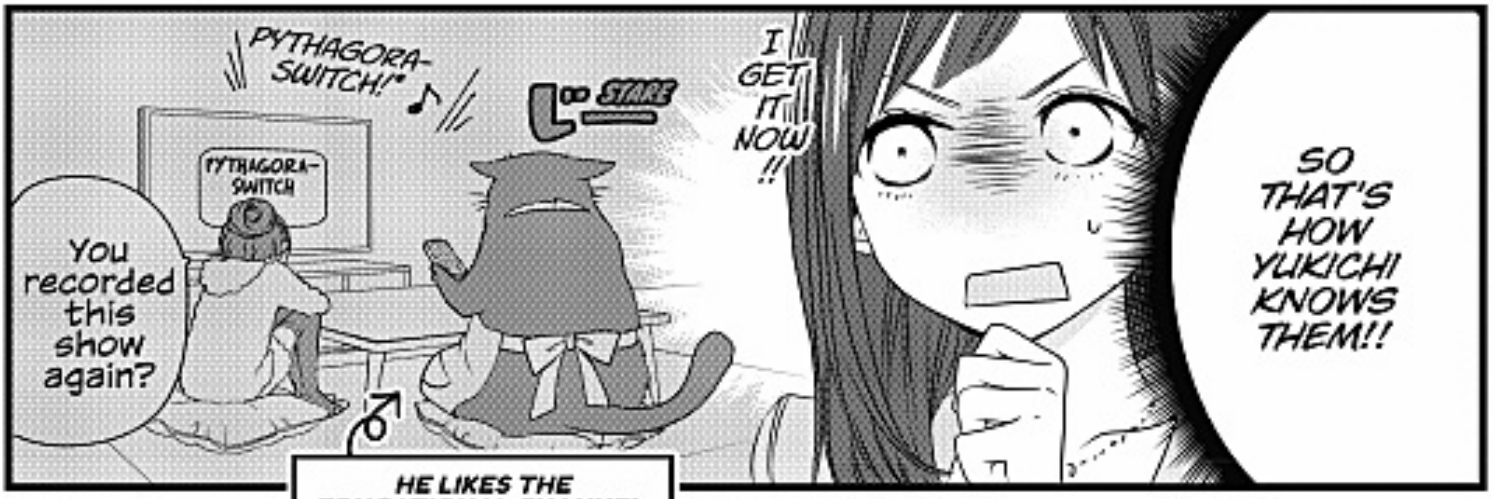
HM? WHERE'S YUKICHI...?
?!
?!
O-OH, YEAH!!
WELCOME BACK!
WE SHOULD HEAD OVER TO THE AUDITORIUM NOW.

UNDERWATER FUN





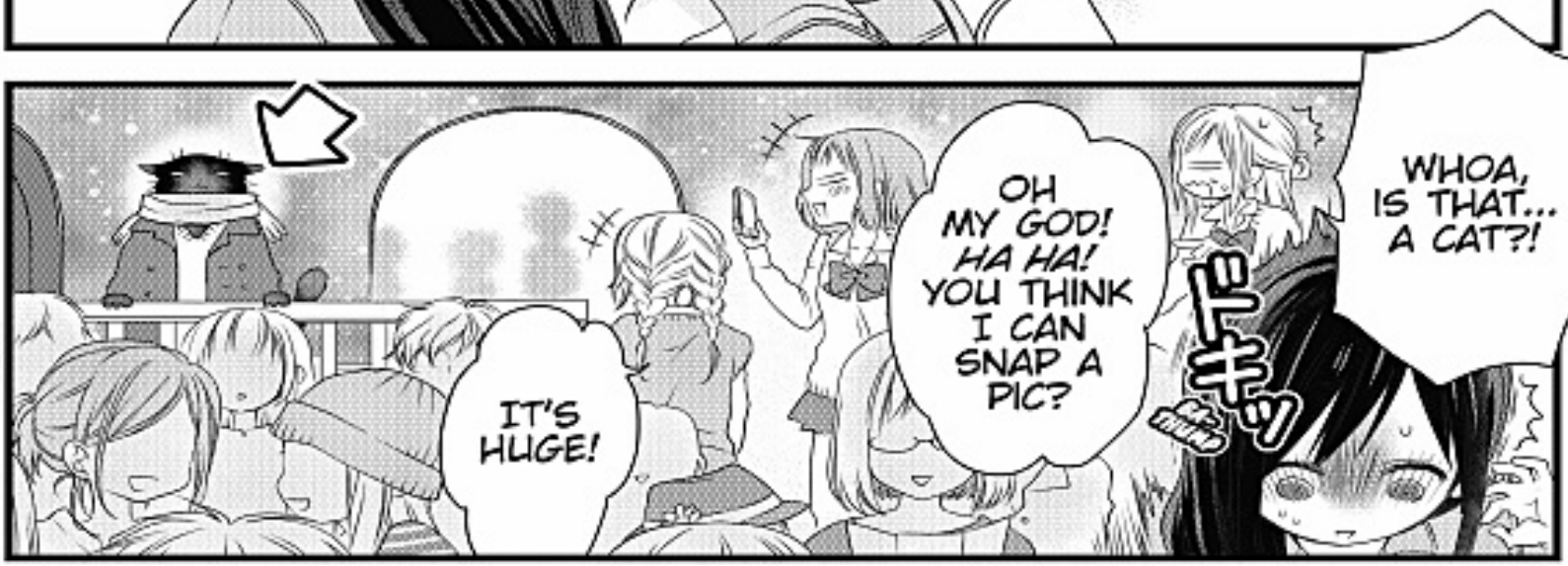
SHE KNOWS THE DANCES, TOO.



*PythagoraSwitch is an educational kids' show.

GLANCE
BUT SERIOUSLY, WHY DID HE FOLLOW ME HERE?
WHEN DOES IT START?
I WONDER IF YUKICHI IS OKAY. HE JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED.

MAYBE HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME AND WANTED TO SEE WHAT KIND OF MAN THE BOSS IS...OR SOMETHING.
HE SEEMED CONVINCED TODAY WAS A DATE.


IT'S HUGE!
OH MY GOD! HA HA! YOU THINK I CAN SNAP A PIC?
ドキッ
WHOA, IS THAT... A CAT?!

OOH, MAYBE!
YOU THINK IT'S ONE OF THE MONSTERS FOR THE SHOW?
O-OH! UM, SORRY!
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TAKING PHOTOS INSIDE THE AUDITORIUM. THANK YOU.
!!!
!!!

HMPH!
I'LL BE FINE! YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME!!
HMPH!
THAT WAS WAY TOO CLOSE!! WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?!
HURRY UP AND GO WHILE THE LIGHTS ARE STILL DIM!!

NOOD
CLENCH

SHWIP!
umyu★Sea
SEA BUNNY LOVE

GOOD AFTER-NOON, EVERY-BODY!!
AAA, AAH!
HELLO-OO, ENO-TORI!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
THAT'S WHY HE'S HERE?!

YAAAAAAH!
ワアアアアアアアッ!!
UGHHH! I'M TOO PRE-OCCUPIED TO ENJOY THIS!
AN IDOL FROM THE SEA!
I'M JUST...
I'M NOT FROM HEAVEN!
THEY SAY I'M A SEA ANGEL BUT...

EEEEK!!
LET'S GO!!
IF YOU GET ALL THE QUESTIONS RIGHT YOU GET LIMITED EDITION MERCH, SO DO YOUR BEST, OKAY?!
IT'S TIME FOR THE UMYU-SEA QUIZ!!

THEY'RE SO CUTE!
AHH!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! DON'T VOLUNTEER!!
ハイハイハーイ!!
HERE! PICK MEE!!
OKAY, FRIENDS! WHO WANTS TO GIVE IT A TRY?!

?!
SQUEE!
IT'S AURORA-CHAN!
WHOOO!
ALL RIGHT! FIRST UP TO BAT, IS THE DAD IN THE FANTASTIC SUIT!

NO HESITATION WHATSO-EVER!!
IS HE SOME KIND OF SEA SLUG EXPERT?!
1.CHROMODORIS COLEMANI
2.DENDRODORIS TUBERCULOSA
3.HALGERDA DIAPHANA
STAAARE
CAN YOU NAME ALL THE SEA SLUGS IN THIS PHOTO ?!
HE SEEMS LIKE HE'D HATE STUFF LIKE THIS.

CLAP パチ CLAP パチ
WOW!
I'LL TAKE... THIS ONE.
パチ CLAP
SQUEE!
HERE YOU ARE! PLEASE PICK ONE.
パチ CLAP
WHOOOA!
おお
AMAZING!
I'M SO JELLY!
THAT'S CORRECT!! CONGRAT-ULATIONS!!

THIS IS THE LIMITED-EDITION AURORA PLUSH YOU CAN ONLY GET AT THEIR CONCERTS!
THANK YOU, UNCLE KAORU!!
HERE YOU GO, YUME.

OH, NOTHING, UNCLE KAORU.
IS SOMETHING FUNNY, FUKUZAWA-KUN?
DON'T.
YAAAY!
PFFT!
SHAKE SHAKE...

FORGET ALIENS, KIDS ARE A MENACE TO THE EARTH.

SHE TOOK OVER MY DAY OFF...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THAT WAS FUN!

YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY BAD WITH KIDS, ARE YOU?

ISN'T THAT MORE THAN ENOUGH TO PROVE YOU'RE GOOD WITH KIDS?

BUT YOU MADE THE EFFORT TO LEARN ABOUT THE THING THAT SHE LIKES!

I MEAN, LOOK HOW HAPPY YUME-CHAN--

ISN'T IT?

.....

?

LOST

IS IT...?

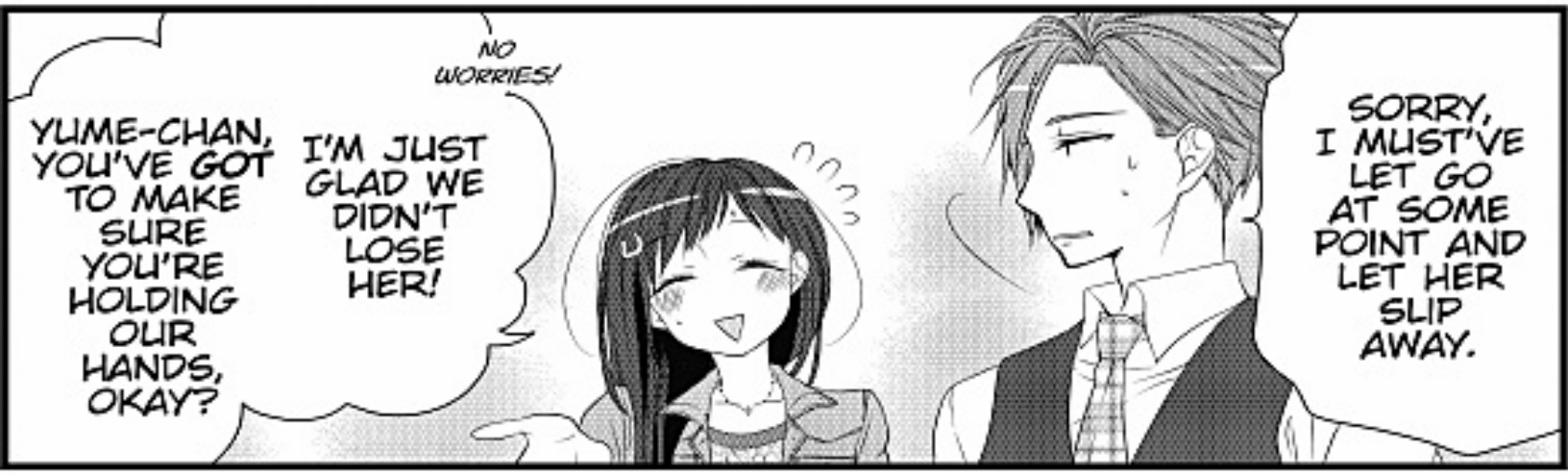
YUME!!

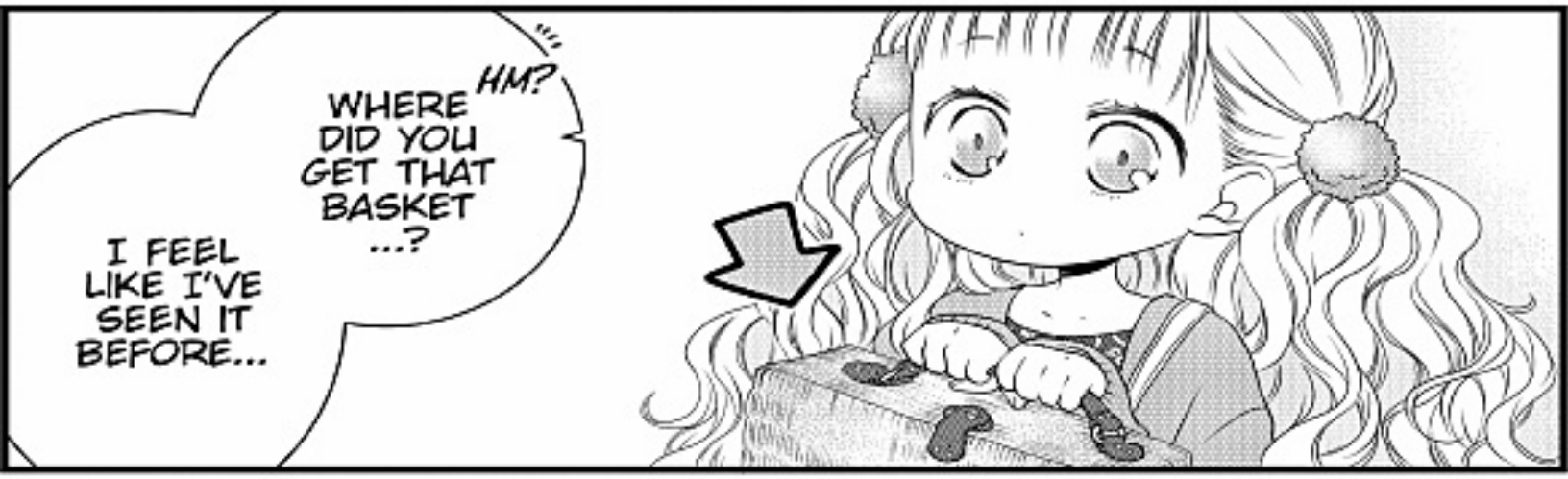
BAM!!

YUME-CHAAA-AAN?!

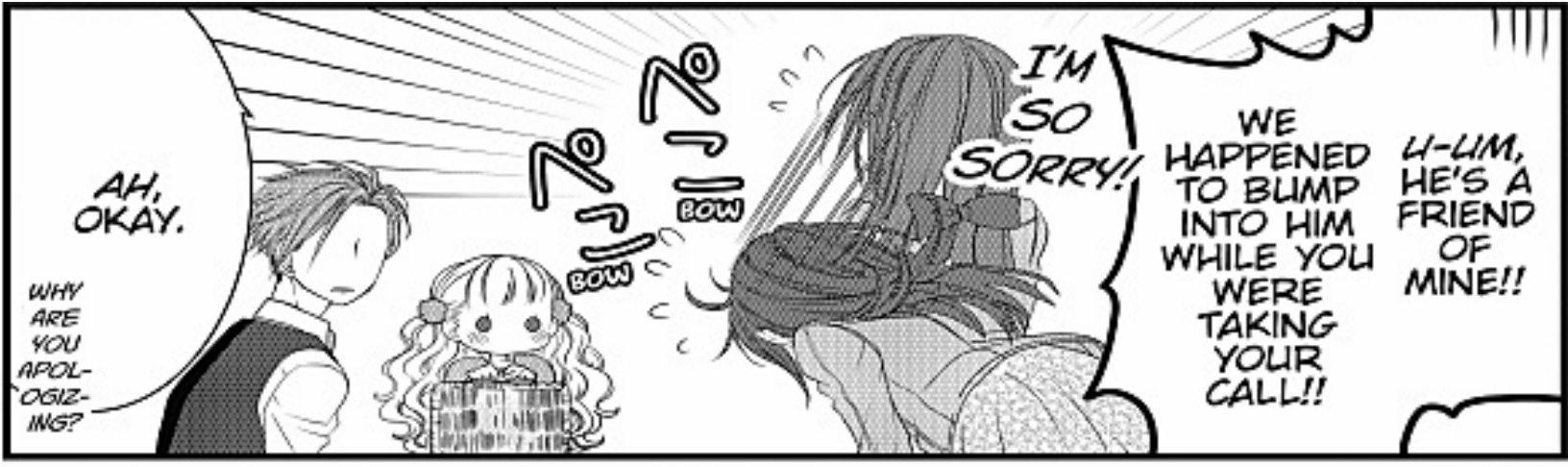
NOT AGAIN!

THERE YOU ARE!! THANK GOOD-NESS!!
YUME!!
POP
ひょこっ
I'M RIGHT HERE!


YUME-CHAN, YOU'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE HOLDING OUR HANDS, OKAY?
NO WORRIES!
I'M JUST GLAD WE DIDN'T LOSE HER!
SORRY, I MUST'VE LET GO AT SOME POINT AND LET HER SLIP AWAY.

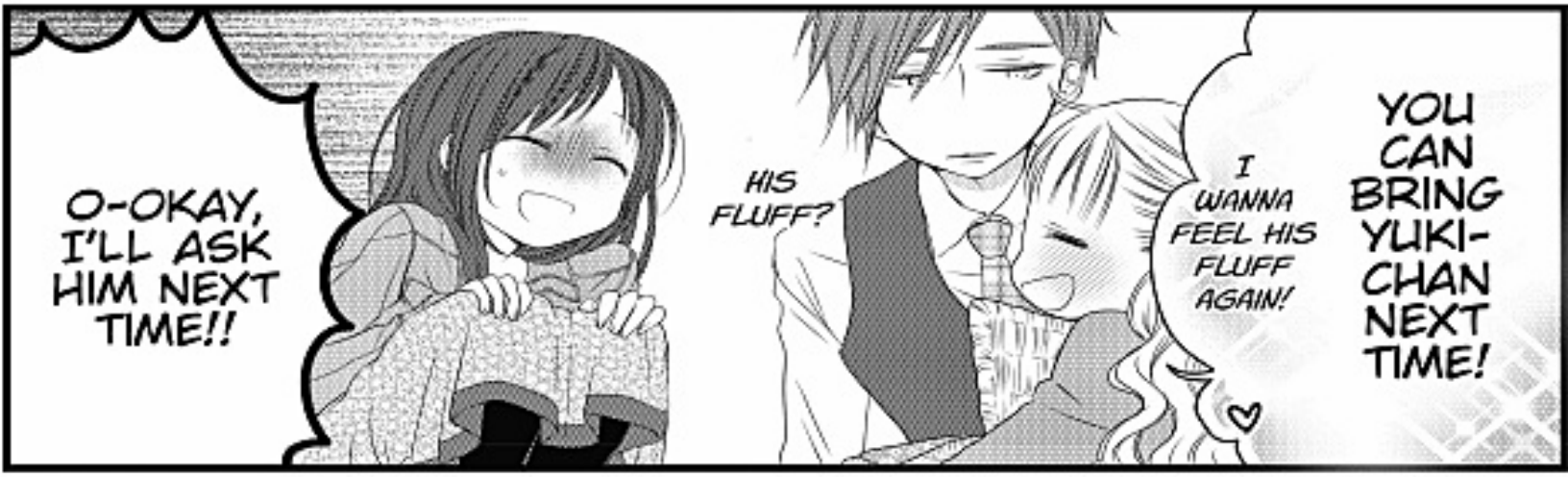

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE...
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT BASKET ...?
HM?

AAAAAAH!!
WHO'S YUKI-CHAN?
YUKI-CHAN JUST GAVE IT TO ME!


AH, OKAY.
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
ペコー
BOW
ペコー
BOW
I'M SO SORRY!
WE HAPPENED TO BUMP INTO HIM WHILE YOU WERE TAKING YOUR CALL!!
U-UM, HE'S A FRIEND OF MINE!!

THIS LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE LUNCHES FUKUZAWA USUALLY BRINGS.
WOW.
POP
ポン
HE SAID I SHOULD SHARE THIS WITH EVERYONE!

OF COURSE! I HAD A BLAST TODAY!!
WILL YOU PLAY WITH ME AGAIN?
FIDGET
FIDGET
HEY, MISS...


O-OKAY, I'LL ASK HIM NEXT TIME!!
HIS FLUFF?
I WANNA FEEL HIS FLUFF AGAIN!
YOU CAN BRING YUKI-CHAN NEXT TIME!

WHAT IF YOU'D ENDED UP PLASTERED ALL OVER TWITTER?! WHAT THEN... HUH?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK THE TRAIN ALL THE WAY TO THE AQUARIUM!
THE SANDWICHES WERE GOOD!!
BAM!!
YUKI-CHAAAN!! ARE YOU BACK?!
WHUMP
YUKI-CHI!!
AAAAA-AAAH!!
NO! DON'T DIE ON ME!!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
EYES ROLLED BACK IN HIS HEAD.

OF COURSE YOU'D BE EXHAUSTED.
YOU WENT ALL OUT TODAY.
TUCK
SNOOZE
WELL, AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY, THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

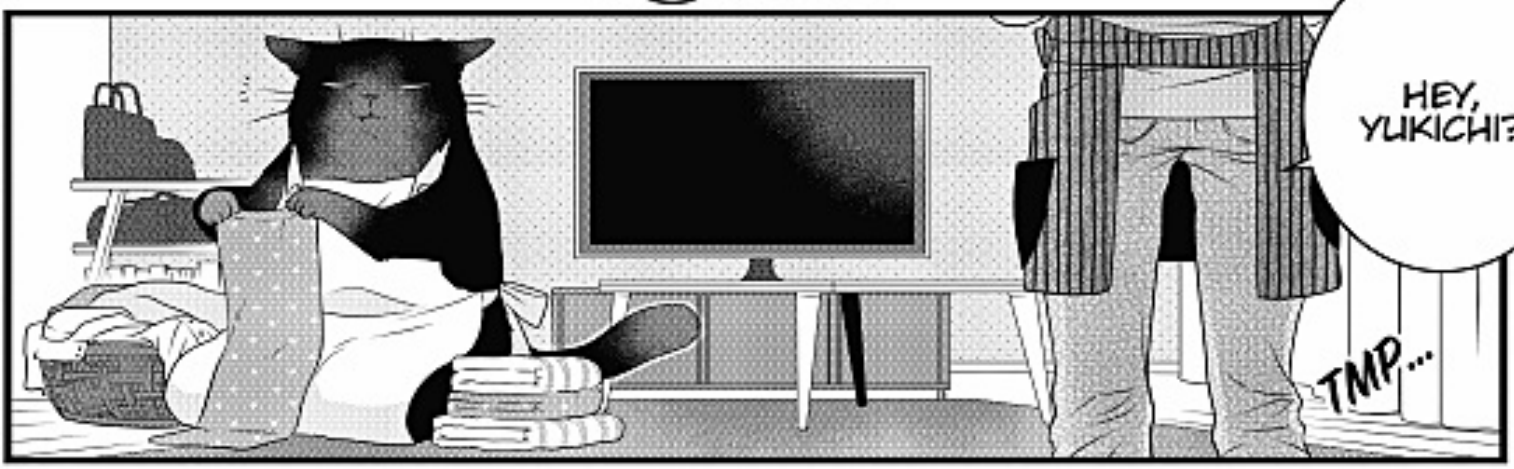
BUT...
IT'S BEEN QUITE SOME TIME...
CHUCKLE
SINCE I'VE SEEN YOUR SLEEPING FACE.

GOOD NIGHT, YUKICHI. SWEET DREAMS.

THE NEXT MORNING.
CHIRP
チュン
CHIRP
チュ
ぐっちゃあぁ…
GER-SPLAT

CAN 9 END

PURRRRRR
SHE BARGAINED FOR HER LIFE WITH THE UMYU-SEA MERCH SHE PROMISED HIM.
SEA BUNNY-CHAN KEYCHAIN
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS...


HEY, YUKICHI?
TMP...

FIDGET
BUT...
FIDGET
I WANTED TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR. IT'S A BIT OUT THERE...

BLUSH
CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO COOK?
I'VE GOT AN APRON AND EVERY-THING!!
.....

I DON'T WANT MY SIGNATURE DISH TO BE CUP RAMEN FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!!

DRAG DRAG

SENSEI, PLEASE! PLEEE-EASE!!

WAAAAH!!

I'D BECOME A SLOB WHO CAN'T EVEN PROPERLY TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!

AND IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YOU...

I WAS THINKING ABOUT LAST WEEK...

ALSO...

SHUDDER

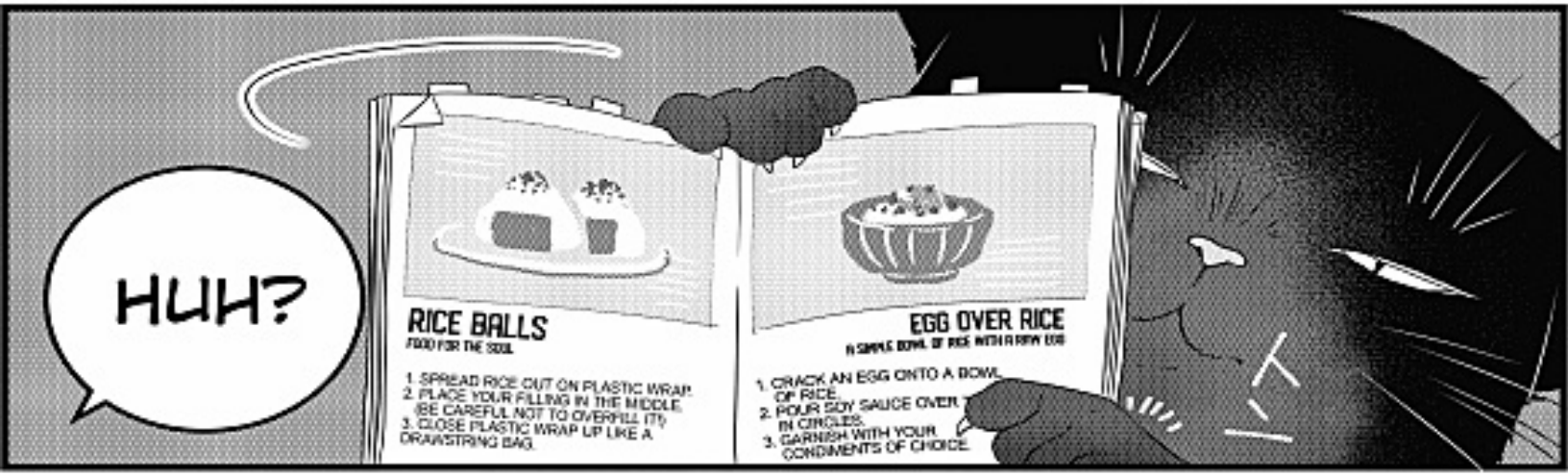
REMEMBERING

LAST WEEK

I WANT TO AT LEAST *TRY* TO CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN FICTION AND REALITY BEFORE I GET FOUND OUT!

I'VE STARTED DEVELOPING A REPUTATION AS A GIRL WITH IMPRESSIVE COOKING ABILITIES.

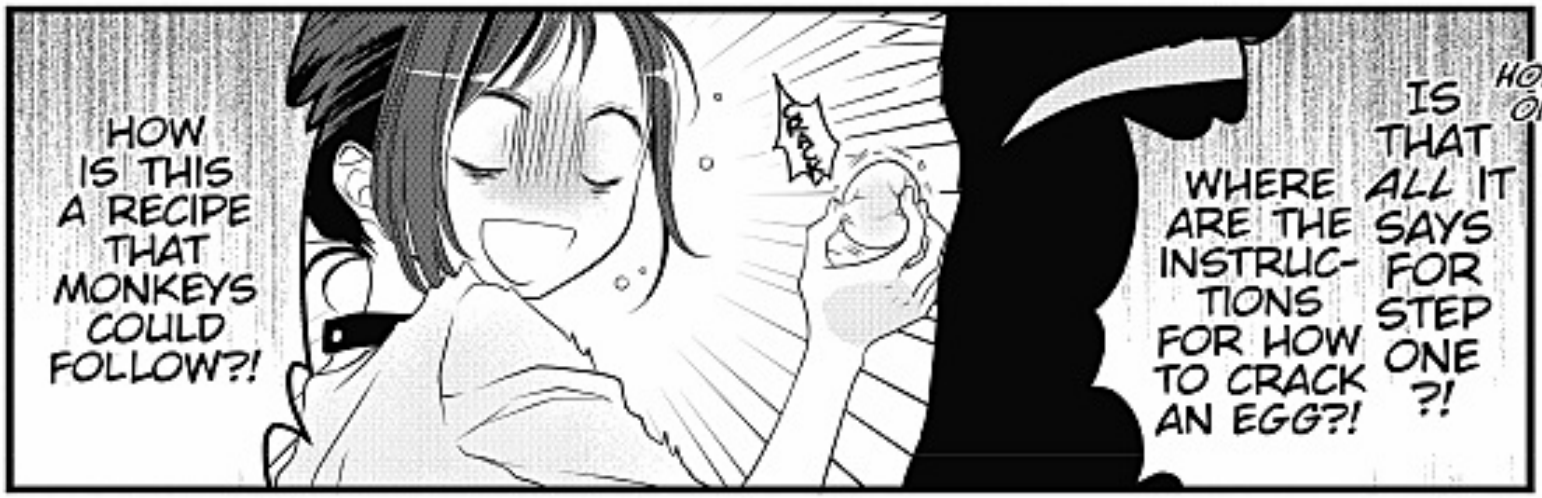
*Magewappa is a traditional Japanese craft where steam is used to bend wood from cedar trees into various items like lunchboxes.



OKAY, WELL, I CAN MANAGE CRACKING AN EGG!!
BRING IT ON!!
SERIOUSLY?
HA HA! THIS IS A JOKE RIGHT?! YOU DON'T REALLY...

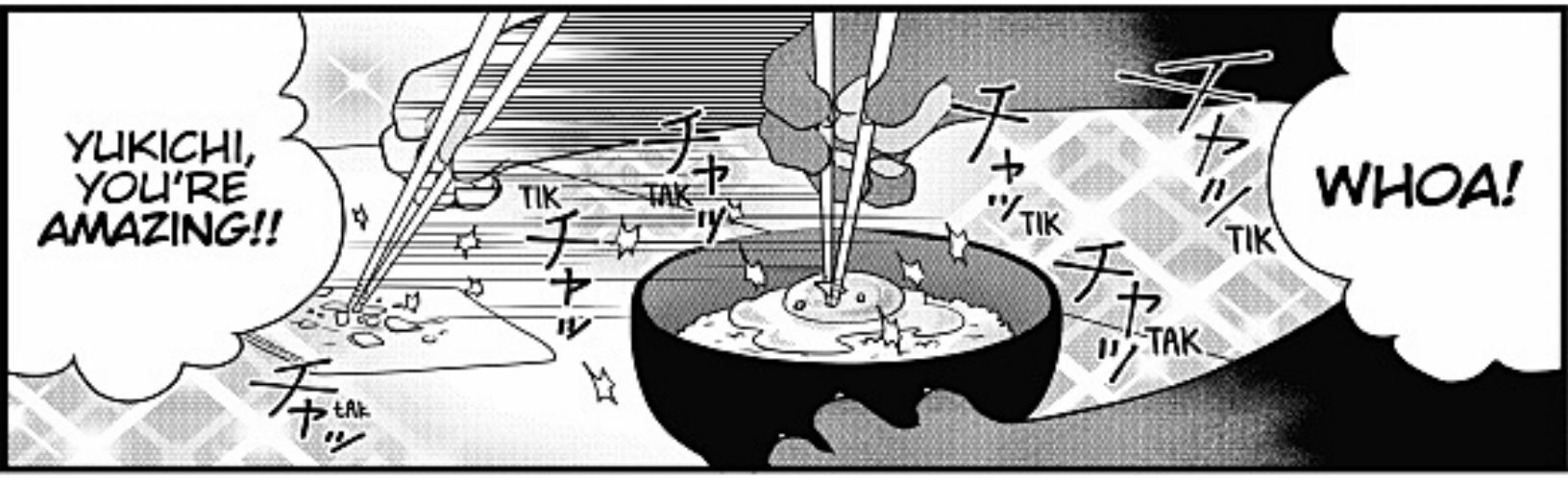
NOD
OKAY! I'VE GOT AN EGG!

RECIPE
1. Crack an egg onto a bowl of rice.
2. Pour soy sauce over top in circles.
3. Garnish with condiments of choice.
NOW WHAT?


HOW IS THIS A RECIPE THAT MONKEYS COULD FOLLOW?!
WHERE ARE THE INSTRUC-TIONS FOR HOW TO CRACK AN EGG?!
HOLD ON!
IS THAT ALL IT SAYS FOR STEP ONE ?!

CRUMBLE
バッキャアアアッ
IT LOOKS LIKE I GARNISHED IT WITH EGGSHELL !!
GAAAAH!!

SIGH!
W-WAIT, DON'T EGGSHELLS HAVE DANGEROUS GERMS ON THEM? CALLED SALMON-SOMETHING ??
W-WELL, EGGSHELLS ARE A SOURCE OF CALCIUM, SO...!


YUKICHI, YOU'RE AMAZING!!
WHOA!
チャッ TAK
チャッ TIK
チャッ TIK
チャッ TIK
チャッ TAK
チャッ TAK

.....
HOW DOES THAT WORK?
YOU CAN HOLD CHOPSTICKS WITH THOSE PAWS...?!

EGG OVER RICE!!
SPARKLE
キラ
キラ
キラ
SPARKLE
TA-DA!!
PLAIN RICE WITH EGG
A FACE OF PITY.
キャ
AHHH!
CLICK CLICK
WOW!! I REALLY DID IT!!
MY FIRST-TIME COOKING SOMETHING OTHER THAN CUP RAMEN!!
SPLASH
ビチャ
SPLISH
チャ
SPLOOSH
どぼぼ
YAY! IT LOOKS SO TAST--
DRIP

A RECIPE WHERE YOU DON'T HAVE TO CRACK ANY EGGS OR POUR ANY SOY SAUCE!!
WHAP
TH-THERE MUST BE AN EASIER RECIPE!!

AND YOU DON'T LOOK AT RECIPES WHEN YOU COOK.
IT'S NOT MINE...
SHOCK
WAIT A SEC, WHERE DID THIS BOOK COME FROM?
HM?

ALL OF THESE RECIPES FEEL SO FAMILIAR?
OH!
SO HOW COME...

DIVE
CAT HAT!
THESE ARE ALL DISHES YOU USED TO MAKE WHEN YOU WERE JUST A KITTEN!!

YOU BECAME A PRO IN THE KITCHEN SO QUICKLY, I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT THOSE DAYS.

WOW, THIS REALLY BRINGS ME BACK!

AW, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.

BLUSH

SO YOU WENT THROUGH THESE ONE BY ONE AND MADE EACH RECIPE, HUH?

RICE BALLS! THE FIRST THING YOU EVER MADE FOR ME! ♡

?

HEY YUKICHI!

I WANNA EAT THIS! WE HAVEN'T HAD IT IN A LONG TIME.

AFTERWARD, YUKICHI TOOK THE FAILED ATTEMPT AT EGG OVER RICE AND TURNED IT INTO RICE SOUP.

AND YOU MANAGED TO GET THE TRIANGLE SHAPE EVEN WITH YOUR PAWS!

WOW! LOOKS GOOD! ♡

HOW DOES THAT WORK?

SQUEEZE

SQUEEZE

.....

CAN 10 END

CHOP
CHOP
CHOP

STARE
KRAK
BZZZ

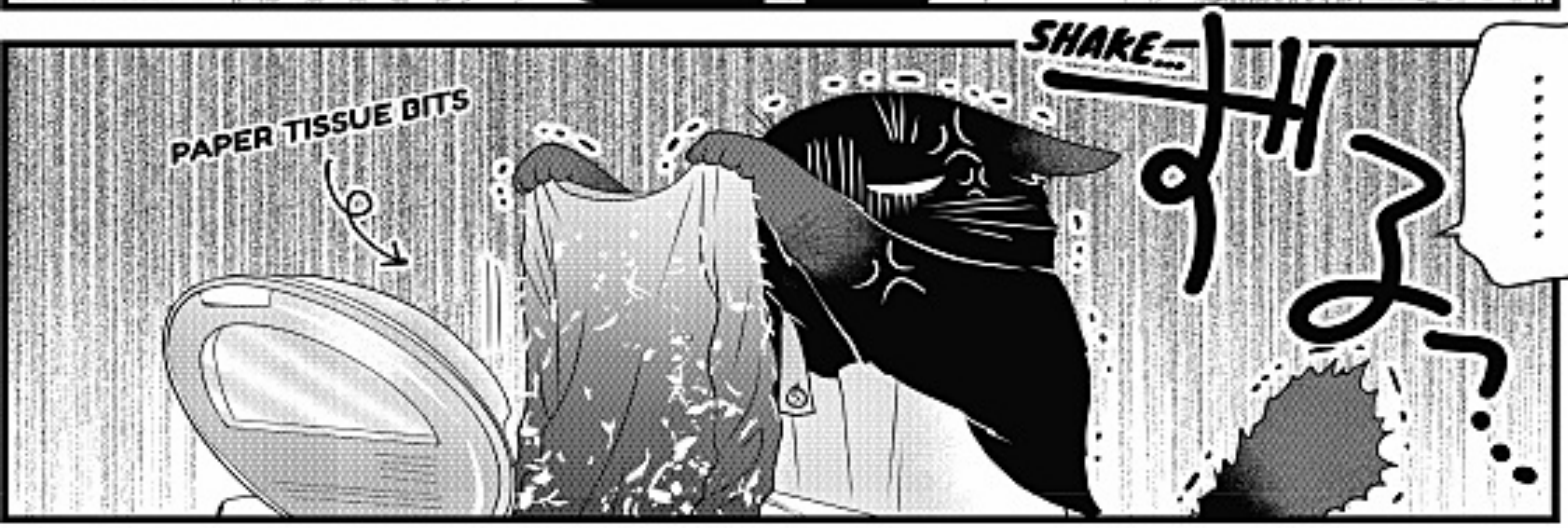
JIGGLE

?!

!!
BANG

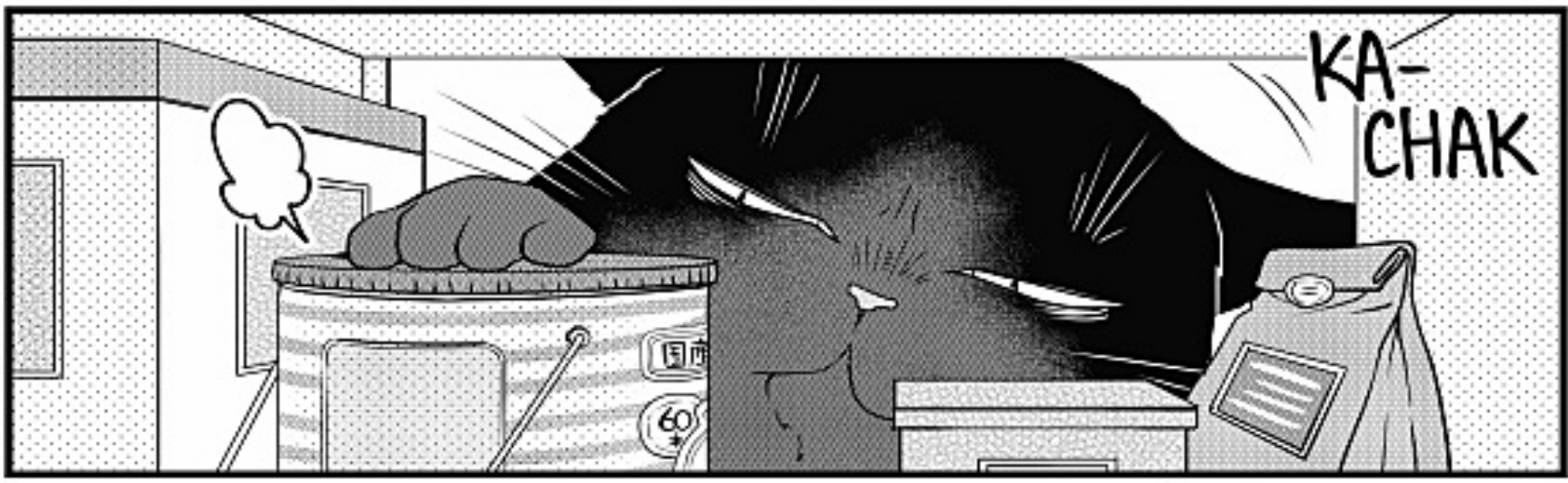
?!
ACK! O-OH NO, I'M SO SORRY!
HEY YUKICHI, HOW DO I TURN OFF SNOOZE ON MY PHO--

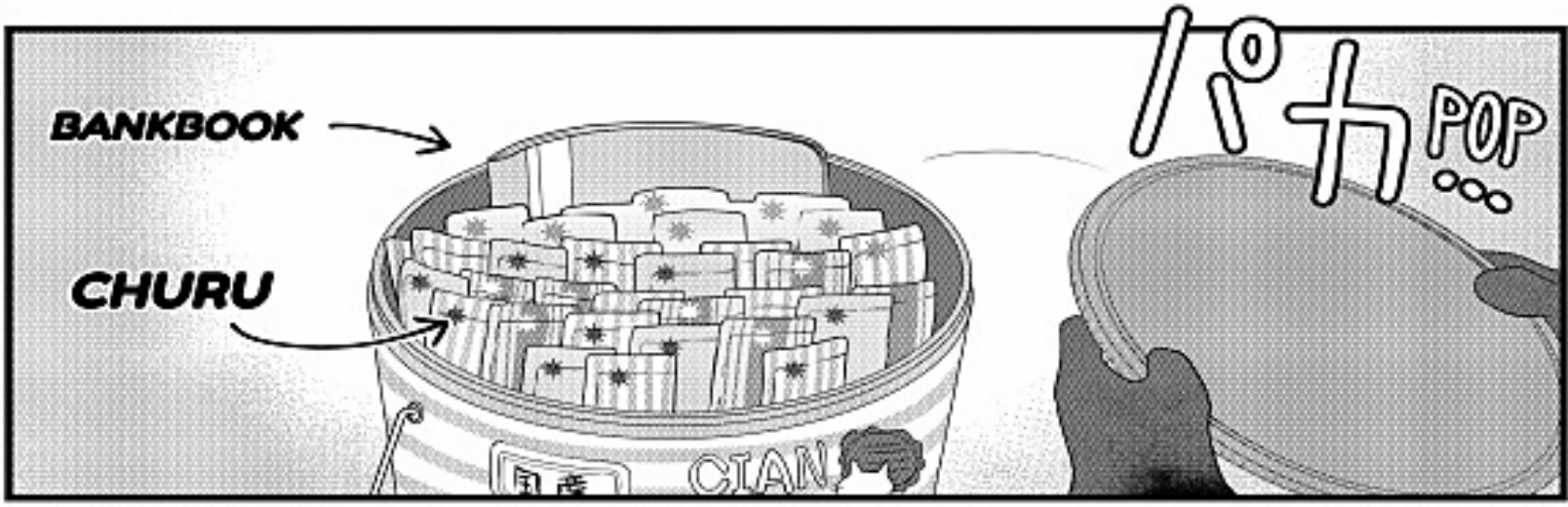
KA-THUNK
PEEP
BEEP BEEP


SHAKE...
PAPER TISSUE BITS
.....

Vigorously shaking towels out before hanging prevents flattening and keeps the pile nice and fluffy (also helps relieve stress).

SIGH.
CLUNK
CLUNK
REWASHING THE LAUNDRY.


KA-CHAK


BANKBOOK
CHURU
パカ POP...

LOOKING AT THEIR ACCOUNT BALANCE IN THE BANKBOOK SOOTHES HIS SOUL.
HEH
HEH
HEH...

WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE RAIN-CLOUDS AS THEY DEVELOP.

TSK!

08:48 LIVE

TORRENTIAL DOWNPOUR HALTS MORNING TRAFFIC

WE'VE JUST BEEN HIT WITH AN UNEXPECTED DOWNPOUR!

OH, YES, I DO! I'VE GOT SOMEONE AT HOME WHO GETS MAD AT ME IF I KEEP BUYING THOSE CONVENIENCE STORE UMBRELLAS.

HE MAKES SURE I HAVE ONE ON ME.

08:48 LIVE

?!

EXCUSE ME, MISS! DO YOU ALWAYS CARRY AN UMBRELLA WITH YOU?

DROP

LUCKILY, YOU'VE GOT SOMEONE WHO MAKES SURE THAT YOU'VE GOT A GOOD ONE HANDY!

I SEE! OTHERWISE, YOU'D SLOWLY ACCUMULATE A HOARD OF CHEAP UMBRELLAS, *HA HA!*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

ALL RIGHT THEN, MOVING ON...

.....

A-AH, YES!

YES, I'M VERY LUCKY. HE'S ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR ME.

WH...
DID SOMETHING GOOD HAPPEN TODAY?
EVERYTHING LOOKS DELICIOUS!!
WHAT IS ALL THIS?! THIS IS WAY NICER THAN USUAL!
RAIN AGAIN TOMORROW ?!
NOOO!
SLURP
H-HUH? YOU'RE BREAKING OUT THE GOOD BEER?! ARE YOU SURE?!
CHEERS!
THAT UMBRELLA CAME IN HANDY!
IT REALLY CAME POURING DOWN THIS MORNING.

CAN II END

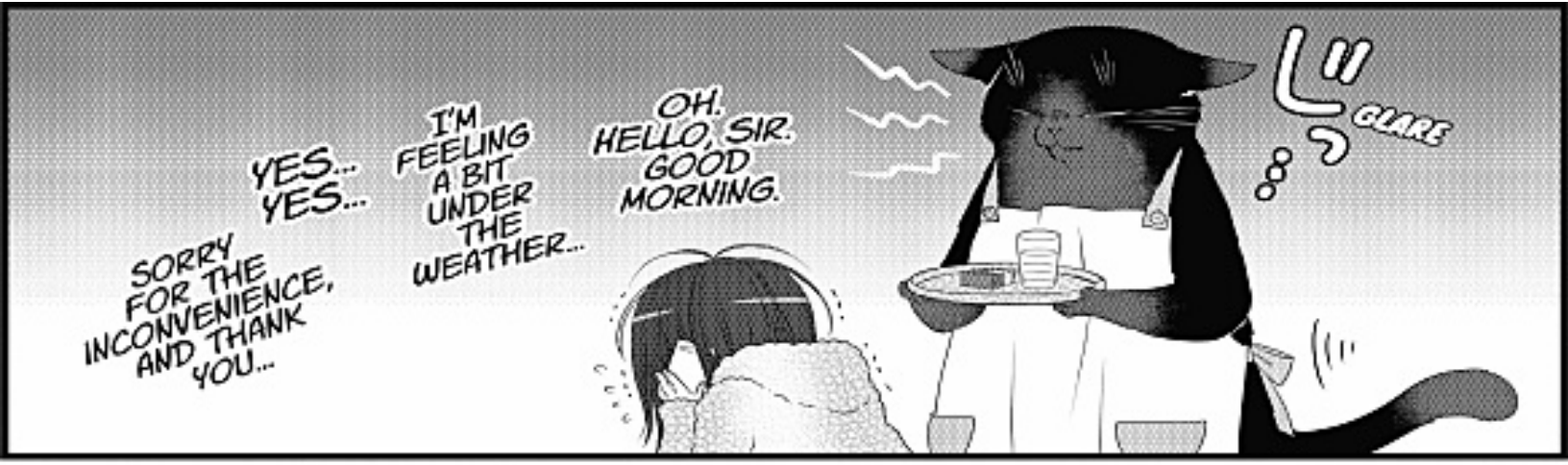
The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

YUKICHI! I BOUGHT A TREAT FOR YOU!
HEE HEE...
PURR
MEOOOW!
SILVER-VINE STICKS
?
!!
SNIFF SNIFF...
SNIFF SNIFF
?
SSSSNIFF...
AAAHH
DON'T HOLD IT LIKE THAT!!
WAIT, DON'T...
※ It's just silvervine.

OH.
KA-CHAK
MORN-ING.
NOT EVEN 7 A.M YET.
06:46 Live
TODAY'S WEATHER PERFECT FOR LAUNDRY
CHRONIC OVER-SLEEPER AND SNOOZE ABUSER.
?!
RAISE...
TA-DAN

IT'S A LITTLE RUDE TO ASSUME I'M SICK JUST BECAUSE I WOKE UP EARLY FOR ONCE!
OH, COME ON, I DON'T HAVE A FEVER.
H-HUH?
38.4℃
BEEP BEEP BEEP
YOU BETTER TAKE THE DAY OFF, PUNK!
GLARE
I FEEL TOTALLY FINE.
THAT'S WEIRD. HEY, IS THIS THING BROKEN OR SOMETHING?
NO, NO, I CAN'T TODAY...
HRNNGH!
I HAVE THREE BACK-TO-BACK MEETINGS IN THE MORNING!!
PLEASE! TODAY'S THE ONE DAY I CAN'T TAKE OFF!!

SOME DAYS YOU JUST CAN'T TAKE OFF!
HUFF...
I SAID I'M FINE. THIS IS NOTHING!
BUT, I AT LEAST HAVE SOME SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AS AN ADULT...
CREAK
YOU KNOW ME. IF I WANTED TO STAY HOME, I'D JUST DO IT.
HAAK-CHOO!!
ふぇっくし!!
HAAK-CHOO!!
ふぇっくし!!
HAAK-CHOO!!
ふぇっくし!!
HAK-CHOO!!!
ふぇっくし!!
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
IT'S SO COLD ALL OF A SUDDEN. WHY'S IT SO COLD...?


OH. HELLO, SIR. GOOD MORNING.
I'M FEELING A BIT UNDER THE WEATHER...
YES... YES...
SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE, AND THANK YOU...
GLARE

DON'T "TCH" ME!! I CAN'T TAKE THE WHOLE DAY OFF!
TCH!
COUGH!
I TOOK A HALF DAY.

JUST GOTTA... SWEAT IT OUT.
HUFF! HAAH!
I HAVE TO BREAK THIS FEVER SO I CAN GO IN THIS AFTER-NOON.

WASTING ENERGY LIKE THIS WAS NOT HELPING HER FEVER.
うわぁん
ACK!
がしぃ
SHOVE
QUIT IT, YUKICHI!
I NEED TO EAT SOME-THING REALLY SPICY AND TAKE A HOT BATH!

HUFF!
HUFF!
CLINK

I BOUGHT ...
SOME WET FOOD FOR YOU.
NNGH.
MMM.
WHERE ARE YOU ...?
YUKI-CHI?

AND THEN...
I'LL BUY YOU...
TODAY, I'M GONNA ...
WORK HARD...

MM...
SO MANY CANS OF FOOD...
PAT
PAT

MMM?
BLINK

FLUFF
!
SEEMS LIKE MY FEVER'S GONE DOWN.
SHOOT. WHAT TIME IS IT?
I NEED TO GO INTO THE OFFICE...

.....

SHE WOUND UP TAKING THE WHOLE DAY OFF.
PURRRRRRRRRR
ACTUALLY ...
I THINK I'M STILL FEELING A BIT UNDER THE WEATHER.

CAN IZ END

CONTINUED
IN VOLUME 2!!

AFTERWORD

Nice to meet you! Or long time no see, depending. Thank you for reading all the way until the end. It's been six, maybe seven, years since I've released a manga volume, so this is a bit nerve-wracking.

After taking such a long break, it's been a shock to see how much manga software and manga reading apps have evolved. Coming back to it last year felt like going back home after a while and finding that everything's changed!

The idea for *The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today* was born when I was absolutely exhausted, so I sketched out all the things I wanted and wished for. I hope that this manga can help serve as a bit of solace to anyone who was as tired as I was— or who wanted a cat as much as I did.

See you in volume 2!

Hitsuzi Yamada

Starting from the next page, you'll get to read the first chapter of the original release of *The Masterful Cat Is Depressed Again Today*, which was written from Yukichi's perspective. Hope you enjoy Yukichi and his suffering!

※ *In order to be included in this volume, the chapter was converted from a full-color vertical strip to monochrome, manga-style pages.*

Let's go to next page!!

I AM A CAT.

BUT I'M NO ORDINARY CAT.

I AM THE FIRST, AND PERHAPS ONLY...

MASTERFUL CAT.

CAN O

KA-CHAK!!
HIC!
YUKICHIII!!
MOMMY'S HOOOO-ME!!
A MASTERFUL CAT KNOWS...
THAT'S WHY HUMANS WORK DAY, DAY OUT, AT PLACES CALLED "COMPANIES" ...
AND THEY USE THEIR EARNINGS TO BUY CAT FOOD.
KITTY MAGNET
TUNA
MADE WITH REAL TUNA
HM? ARE YOU ASLEEP AL-READY?
YOU NEED MONEY TO LIVE!!
HEEEY! YUKICHI?
HELLO?

AND UNFORTUNATELY FOR ME...

FAINTED OUT

?!

MY OWNER WAS A TRAIN WRECK OF A HUMAN BEING!!

TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY, IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR HUMAN TO WORK...

YOU'LL STARVE!!

HAD SHE NOT TAKEN ME IN THAT SNOWY NIGHT...

I WOULD NOT BE HERE TO TELL THE TALE.

SIIIIIGH...

TMP

I MADE A DECISION THE DAY WE MET.

IT'S A PITY, BUT THIS IS MY FATE.

ぬーん
LOOM
MM...
MMPH. YUKICHI... LEMME RUB YOUR BELLY.
.....
STARE
OR...
THAT SHE KEEPS HER HOUSE LIKE A GARBAGE DUMP.
IT DOESN'T MATTER...
?!
THIS'LL BE YOUR HOME FROM NOW ON!
ぐっちゃあ...
GER-SPLAT!
THE MOMENT I ENTERED HER HOME, I DECIDED.
THAT SHE FALLS ASLEEP DROOLING ON THE FLOOR!!
ぐが
BLACKED OUT

KITTY MAGNET
TUNA
MADE WITH REAL TUNA
TO MAKE SURE THE CAT FOOD KEEPS COMING IN!!
SINCE I'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH OVERFLOWING INTELLIGENCE AND SKILL...
BUSTLE
PSSHA
FWSH
HUSTLE
BUSTLE
I'M GOING TO PUT THOSE ABILITIES TO WORK...
THAT THIS TRAIN WRECK STAYS SAFE AND HEALTHY.
SQUISH...
NNGH. YOU'RE SO HEAVY.
I'M GONNA DIE.
SO...
I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO MAKE SURE...

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again, Today

Always
I love Egg
No Life No Cook

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

I'M QUITE THE MASTERFUL CAT.
AND PERHAPS IT MAY BE ARROGANT TO SAY SO, BUT...
SCRUB
SCRUB
PSSHAA
...
CLINK
CLANK
I AM A CAT.
FOR EXAMPLE ...
SIGH...
SQUEAK
STILL, EVEN I HAVE MY PROBLEMS.
EVEN THE NEIGHBORHOOD CROWS KNOW WHEN THE COLLECTION DAYS ARE AND HOW THE GARBAGE IS SORTED!!
I THOUGHT HOMO SAPIENS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE MOST INTELLIGENT SPECIES!
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
HE HAS TO MANUALLY SORT EACH ITEM INDIVIDUALLY BEFORE TAKING OUT THE TRASH.
POTATO CHIPS
WHY IS THIS PLASTIC CHIP BAG MIXED IN WITH THE REGULAR TRASH?!
POTATO CHIPS
PLASTICS
BOTTLES IN THE PLASTICS BIN?! THEY NEED TO BE SEPARATED!!
WUT?
MY OWNER, WHO IS TWENTY-SEVEN-YEARS OLD...
BAD MEMORY
STILL DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO SEPARATE HER TRASH!!

IF HER COMPANY EVER ENDS UP DOWNSIZING, SHE'LL PROBABLY BE LAID OFF--
OH MY GOD!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE ACTUALLY HIRED SUCH A USELESS HUMAN BEING.
GOOD GRIEF!
YOU'RE A CULINARY GENIUS!! I'M IN AWE OF ITS DELICIOUSNESS!!
I CAN'T EVEN...!!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
Y-YUKI-CHI!
DID YOU CHANGE THE HAMBURGER SAUCE RECIPE?!
PURRRRRRRR
HMPH!
AHH, THIS IS BLISS!
PLEASE, MAKE THIS AGAIN!!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

The Masterful Cat is Depressed Again Today

story and art by HITSUZI YAMADA VOLUME 1

TRANSLATION
Alan Cheng & Rowena Chen

ADAPTATION
Betsy Aoki

LETTERING
Christa Miesner

COVER AND LOGO DESIGN
Hanase Qi

PROOFREADER
B. Lana Guggenheim

EDITOR
Shannon Fay

PREPRESS TECHNICIAN
Rhiannon Rasmussen-Silverstein

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Lissa Pattillo

MANAGING EDITOR
Julie Davis

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
Adam Arnold

PUBLISHER
Jason DeAngelis

Dekiru Nekowa kyoumo Yuuutsu vol. 1
© 2019 Hitsuzi Yamada. All rights reserved.
First published in Japan in 2019 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without written permission from the copyright holders. This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental. Any information or opinions expressed by the creators of this book belong to those individual creators and do not necessarily reflect the views of Seven Seas Entertainment or its employees.

Seven Seas press and purchase enquiries can be sent to Marketing Manager Lianne Sentar at press@gomanga.com. Information regarding the distribution and purchase of digital editions is available from Digital Manager CK Russell at digital@gomanga.com.

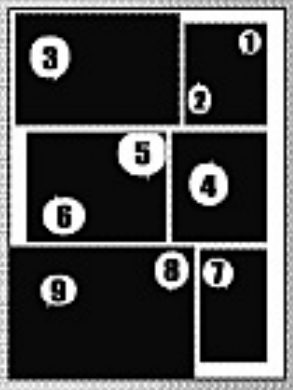
Seven Seas and the Seven Seas logo are trademarks of Seven Seas Entertainment. All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-64827-605-7
Printed in Canada
First Printing: September 2021
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Ripped by danke-Empire

READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



Follow us online: www.SevenSeasEntertainment.com

A hilarious, heartwarming manga for cat lovers everywhere!

Saku is an ordinary young woman who works long hours and lives alone with her cat, Yukichi. Yukichi, however, is not an ordinary house cat. For one, the temperamental feline towers over Saku and walks around on two legs. Instead of playing with toy mice, he scours supermarket flyers for good deals and keeps the house spotless. With a pet like that, it's hard to tell who's taking care of who!

Seven Seas Entertainment
sevenseasentertainment.com

TEEN (13+)